

IRELAND'S HOMES INTERIORS & LIVING

IRELAND'S LARGEST SELLING MONTHLY INTERIORS AND LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

*Garden
SPECIAL*

29 PAGES OF
GLORIOUS GARDENS
& ASPIRATIONAL
DESIGNS

40

pages of readers'
homes & kitchens

Copenhagen, Ibiza
New York, Dublin

BATHROOMS
CONTEMPORARY BATHING

Cookery
Native at the MAC

Travel
Malahide and Jamaica



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NEPTUNE



'Imperia' Genuine Leather sofa
by Chateau d'Ax.

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Italian leather, the 'Imperia' sofa oozes style and
sophistication.

Harvey Norman
www.harveynorman.ie



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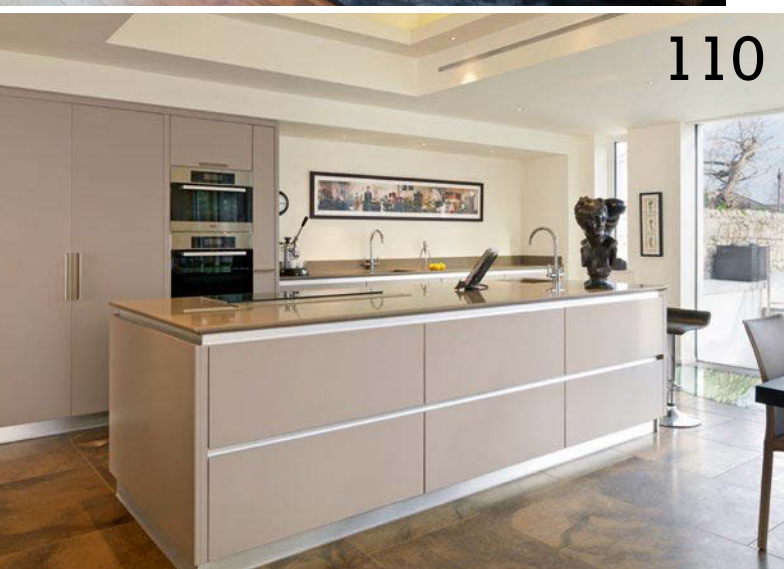
Marc and Michael found their perfect foreign property on the beautiful island of Ibiza. Their home away from home throughout the year, they also have turned this luxury development into a business venture.

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66 New York, New York

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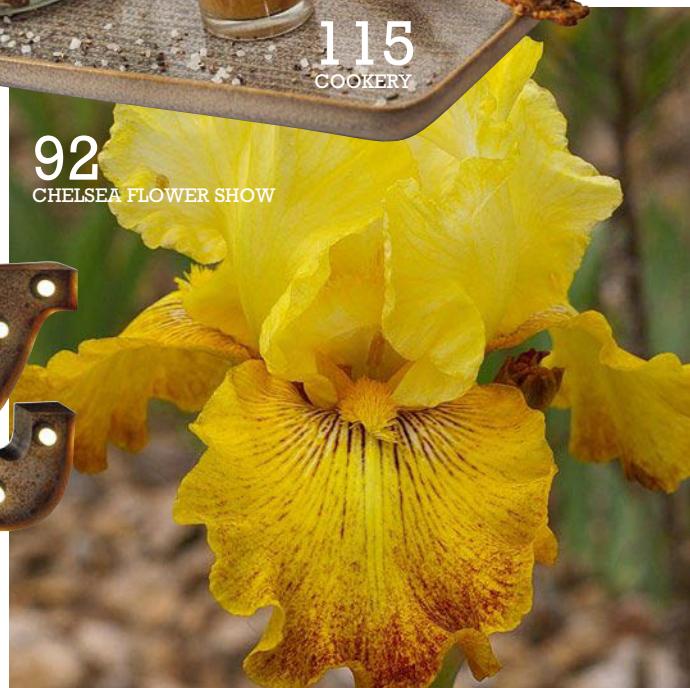
Ireland's Homes Interiors & Living Magazine together with Yellow Door is offering one lucky reader lunch for two at Native restaurant in the MAC, Belfast (to the value of £30), with a complimentary glass of house wine each.



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ORNAMENTAL OUTDOORS

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COMPETITION WINNERS FROM THE JUNE 2015 ISSUE

**1 READER WINS A MARILYN PRINT FROM THE
NEW RANGE AT WWW.ARTLOVESEDITIONS.COM
TOTAL £200.**

Ryan McIlmail, Newtownards.

**1 READER WINS A MEAL FOR TWO AT THE HOME
RESTAURANT BELFAST. TOTAL £60.**

Georgina Stewart, Drum.

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IRELAND'S HOMES INTERIORS & LIVING

AUGUST 2015
NO 242



As we move toward the middle of the summer we can only hope for more lovely weather to enjoy at home, and with that in mind we bring you our Garden Special in our August issue. There are inspirational gardens a-plenty in this issue, from those on show at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, to some a little closer to home as we chat to the gardeners responsible for looking after Glenarm Castle

gardens and Mount Congreve in Waterford. You can browse our selection of garden ornaments and accessories to add some character to your outdoor space. And, we also bring you lots of advice, from caring for your lawn and selecting either a patio or decking, to growing your own vegetables at home and getting the most out of vertical space! Moving indoors we have a bathroom feature which offers up contemporary inspiration for this room; modern style is no longer just reserved for the living areas of the home!

We venture abroad this month for our readers' homes, from Frank and Sofie's modern Copenhagen property full of contrasts to Marc and Michael's home away from home in the hills of San Augusti, Ibiza and last but not least, a striking New York apartment designed and decorated by interior designer Claire McGovern.

For our reader's kitchen this issue Anne welcomes us to her stunning custom built kitchen by Andrew Ryan Furniture in her beautiful period property in Dublin, which is full of functional storage.

Our travel features take us to the Caribbean Island of Jamaica, full of cultural charm and stunning beaches, and closer to home we visit the popular coastal town of Malahide, County Dublin.

For delicious snacks and lunch ideas make sure and check out the recipes this issue brought to you by Yellow Door who have recently unveiled their new restaurant, Native at the MAC, Belfast.

Finally, if you or someone you know has a home that you would like to see featured in the magazine, please contact editorial on 028 9147 3979 or email editorial@ihil.net

Mike Keenan

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Ireland's Homes Interiors & Living 4,200,246

All Ireland Kitchen Guide 185,199

homestyle

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Pack a Picnic

Denby picnic set available at **The OUTLET, Banbridge.**

Prices on request. Phone 028 4062 9575. www.the-outlet.co.uk

Cute Cushion

Bronte lambswool spot cushion from **Cotswold Trading** with feather inner pad and button and fringe detailing. 40cm x 40cm. £45. Phone 013 8685 3331. www.cotswoldtrading.com



Rainbow Style

Rainbow paper bunting kit from **Candle & Cake Ltd.** This kit contains 24 paper pennants with pre cut holes and ribbon, for stringing as much, or as little bunting as you like. Each pennant is 17cm long, and the total length of the ribbon is 4.5 metres. £2.99. Phone 019 5379 7200. www.candleandcake.co.uk



Bright Design

The **Kartell** Bourgie Lamp as designed by Ferruccio Laviani. The height of the lamp can be adjusted to three different sizes; 68cm, 73cm and 78cm height. Price on request. Phone Willie Duggan Lighting, Kilkenny 056 7764308 or visit www.kartell.it for your nearest Irish stockist.



Make a Statement

Oka Film Light from **Oscar & Eve** in grey with a stylish iron tripod base that works perfectly with the distressed metal lamp design. H x 150cm x D 33cm. £200. Phone 020 8993 7639. www.oscarandeve.co.uk



Flock To It

This delightful, original and lovingly restored Flocktail chair from Florrie & Bill is the perfect way to satisfy the collector in you. It is restored from a vintage Danish cocktail chair, and then expertly reupholstered in the UK with Flock's 100 per cent linen fabric. This chair is covered in 'Northmore Major' fabric by designer Rachel Parker. This is a bespoke made to order item and will have a lead time before delivery. £595. Available from **Luku Home**. www.lukuhome.com



Funky Flip

Umbra Flip Hook. A stylish way to hang items. £25. Phone House of Fraser Belfast 0844 8003705, Dundrum 01 2991400; Jonzara, Newtownards 028 9182 1440 and Stock Design, Dublin 01 6794317. www.umbra.com



Trendy Time

Block desk clock in green available from **Red Candy**. It tells the time using the negative space in cut out numbers on the face and is made from powder coated steel. 9cm x 10cm x 4cm. £24. Phone 012 1224 7728. www.redcandy.co.uk

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Top Drawer

Rama & Sita black chest of drawers from **The French Bedroom Company**. This black matt-satin lacquer-finished chest has clean and simple lines, and is the perfect storage solution for small items. W63cm x D26cm x H88cm. £285. Phone 0845 644 8022. www.frenchbedroomcompany.co.uk

Hang Tough

Moooi Lolita suspension light designed by Nika Zupanc. H 40cm x D 37cm. £1,114. Euro price on request. Phone Inreda, Dublin 01 4760362, Lighting Design, Belfast. www.LightingDesignOnline.com; Minima, Dublin 01 6337716. For further Irish stockists visit www.moooi.com



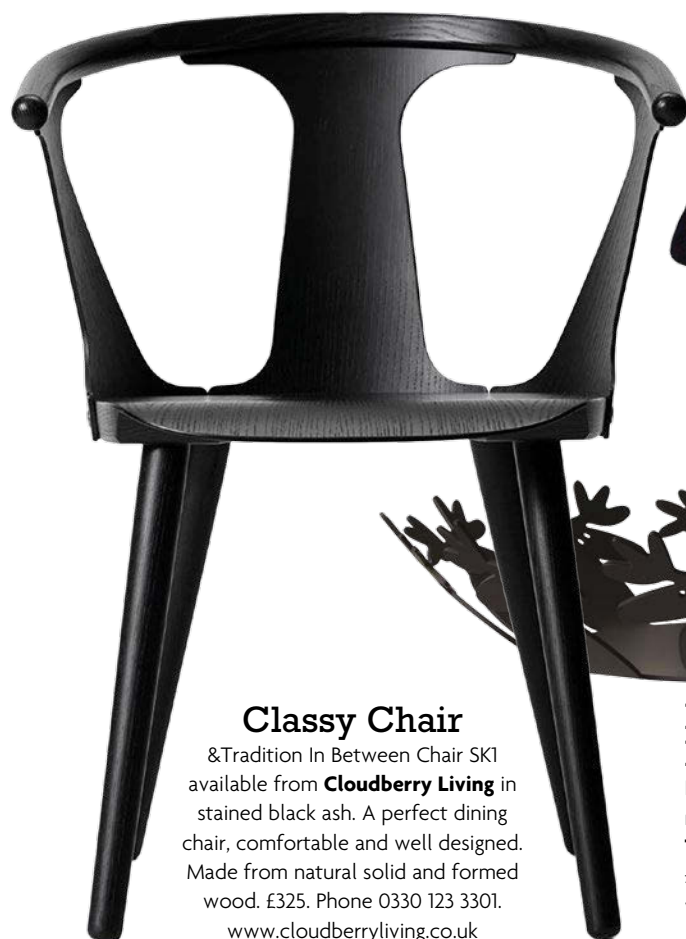
Tea Time

A striking, sleek Chamber Tea Light holder finished in contemporary black from **In-Spaces**. £7.50. Phone 020 7580 1990. www.in-spaces.com



Very Velvet

BIBA black velvet sequin cushion available from **House of Fraser**. £40. Euro price on request. Phone Belfast 0844 8003705 and Dundrum 01 2991400. www.houseoffraser.co.uk



Classy Chair

&Tradition In Between Chair SK1 available from **Cloudberry Living** in stained black ash. A perfect dining chair, comfortable and well designed. Made from natural solid and formed wood. £325. Phone 0330 123 3301. www.cloudberryliving.co.uk

Magnificent Moose

Pluto shallow, lacquered metal moose bowl from **The Scandinavian Shop**. £25. Phone 014 3667 3623. www.scandinavianshop.co.uk



Cast Your Vote

A cast concrete lamp from **Lagoon** with felt shade showcasing the warmth, flexibility and sensitivity of an under appreciated material. Including a grey felt shade. £125. Phone 020 7129 1309 www.vivalagoon.com



Happy Heart

Heart Marquee light from **House Junkie**. Add some carnival chic to your home with this 13 inch high metal heart light. This light has been finished by hand in antique zinc and comes with a transformer for use with mains power or can also be powered by batteries, which is useful if you have an outdoor summer party (although it is not waterproof). £65. Phone 018 8688 4091. www.housejunkie.co.uk



You're a Star

This star cushion will look good anywhere – in your white armchair, on a sofa, in your bedroom or in the kids room. 50cm x 50cm. Available from **AtNo67 Concept Store**. £54. www.atnumber67.co.uk



Go Glossy

Vasum vase, a piece of the exclusive collection specifically designed for **Natuzzi** by the sculpturer Benevelli. Available in white glossy lacquer and dark brown glossy lacquer, as well as in white matt lacquer or dark brown matt lacquer. £330. For stockists phone 01322 312550. www.natuzzi.co.uk



Time for Tea

This elegant 755ml porcelain teapot comes in warm red and slate grey shades, each with a detachable blond wood handle. Like all their teapots, Mido has an integral stainless steel filter, which can be removed when your tea is perfectly brewed or it's time to clean up. £11.50. Available from **Alison Appleton Ltd**. Phone 015 1709 1188. www.alisonappleton.com



No More Ruff Nights

This small dog sofa from **In-Spaces** is elegant yet super comfortable. Available in grey, royal blue and red in a sofa or lounger shape to suit your dog's needs. H x 38cm x W 74cm x D 60cm. £219. Phone 020 7580 1990. www.in-spaces.com



Gimmie Five

Umbra Take 5 black wall clock. £35. Phone House of Fraser Belfast 0844 8003705, Dundrum 01 2991400; Jonzara, Newtownards 028 9182 1440 and Stock Design, Dublin 01 6794317. www.umbra.com



Style Statement

The Tribeca industrial style coffee table with an oxidised zinc top and weathered metal leg from **Luku Home**. £370. www.lukuhome.com





Super Side

Fonteyn bedside table in walnut and red. With bold curves, angled legs and contrasting colours. £249. Available from **Made.com**. Phone 0845 557 6888. www.made.com



Hop To It

Picnic blanket in Kissing Rabbits design from **Annabel James**. Waterproof backed and super lightweight. The picnic blanket rolls into adjustable carry handles. £35.95. Phone 0845 548 0210. www.annabeljames.co.uk

Dishy Little Number

From **Red Candy**, a red basin dish rack, featuring an open space which funnels drainage underneath to an extendable and removable spout. 40cm x 34.25cm x 19cm. £38.40. Phone 012 1224 7728. www.redcandy.co.uk



Feeling Hot

Anglepoise Type 75 Mini Lamp in red. For those more petite office and home spaces. £95. Euro price on request. Phone Lighting World, Dublin 01 6717788 and National Lighting, Dublin 01 6769555 and 01 7099070 or visit www.anglepoise.com for your nearest stockist.

Red Alert

Red metal jug from Gisela Graham. Available from **The Contemporary Home**. £7. Phone 023 9246 9400. www.tch.net

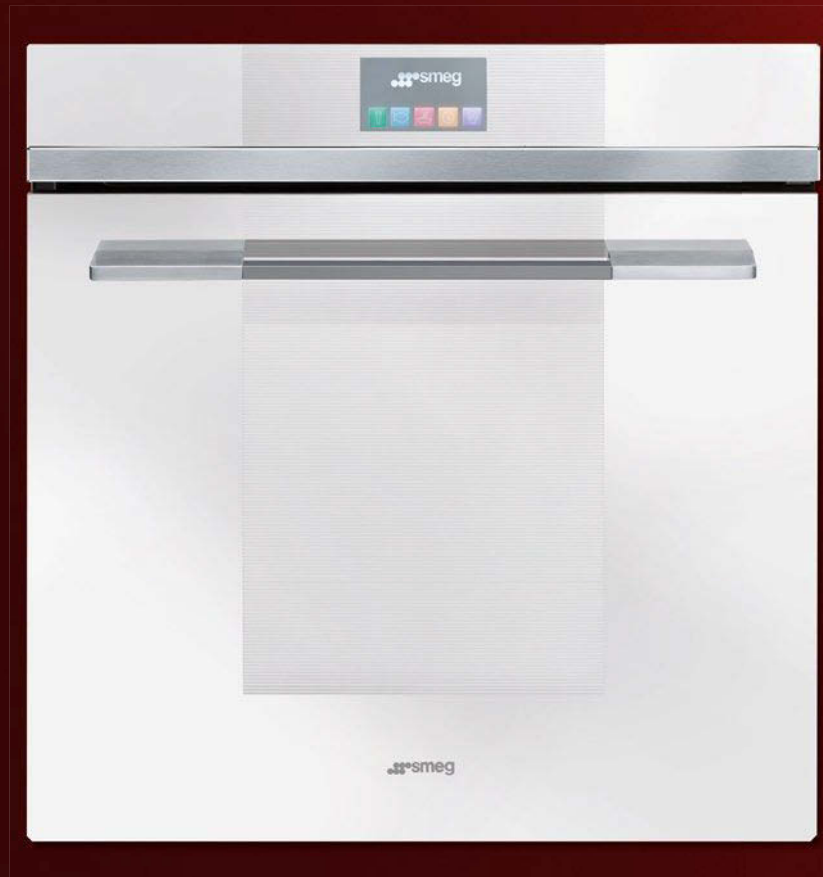
Perfect Print

John Robshaw hand block printed cushion from **Idyll Home**. With a concealed zip and cushion included. Price on request. Phone 016 3069 5779. www.idyllhome.co.uk



Deep Seated

The Borghese sofa from **Natuzzi**. Borghese has a deep seater and adjustable headrests. £1,740. Euro price on request. For stockists phone 01322 312550. www.natuzzi.co.uk



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Roll Up

Isabella yellow roller blind by **Digitex Home**. Featuring an enchanting collection of vintage floral designs. Finely detailed, watercolour effects and historic florals in a beautiful colour palette. £119. Phone 016 1873 8891. www.digetexhome.co.uk



Light Up

Motick bright yellow light from **Out There Interiors**. Available with either pendle or switch options - allowing it to be either hung or placed on furniture. £99. Phone 020 8099 7443. www.outthereinteriors.com



Sunny Disposition

Hugo yellow chair by **Oliver Bonas**. £78. Phone 020 8974 0110. www.oliverbonas.com

Full Bloom

Bloom yellow blossom porcelain cup available from **Berry Red**. With a vintage inspired pattern. 8cm tall, 9cm diameter. £10. Phone 014 3227 4805. www.berryred.co.uk



Colour Pop

Yellow giant floor lamp from **Rigby & Mac**. £139. Phone 020 8761 1011. www.rigbyandmac.com



Bright Thing

The Jonah armchair in sunshine yellow from **Made.com**. A contemporary style, yet with a retro feel. Very comfy, with a well supported, sprung shape and integrated cushioning. Clad in a soft linen mix fabric in a sunshine yellow shade. £449. Phone 0845 557 6888. www.made.com



Mellow Yellow

Make a statement with this poppingly cool yellow deer head from **The French Bedroom Company**. £45. Phone 0845 644 8022. www.frenchbedroomcompany.co.uk



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Satellite sofa, designed by Sacha Lakic.

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Cushions Please!



As well as their best selling original framed railway tickets of Northern Ireland from 1960s to 70s, TICKETS PLEASE are expanding their product range with these 51cm square cushions deep filled with duck feather. There are five cushion styles available from the collection priced at £45/€62 per cushion. **For further information contact James on 07881954707 or www.facebook.com/ticketsplease2013**

Six Northern Ireland Craft Makers to Exhibit at London Design Festival

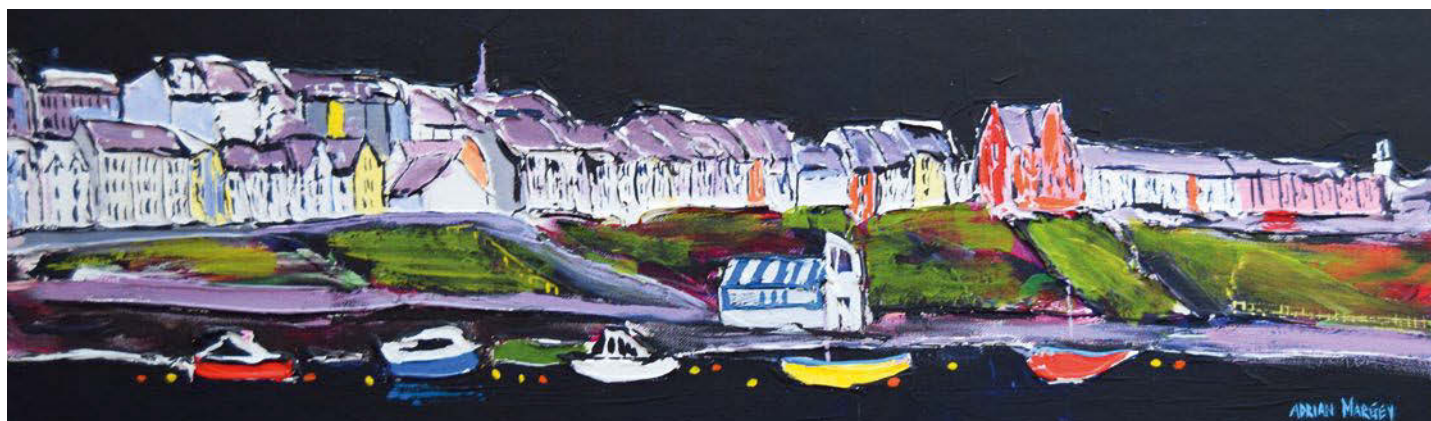


PICTURED WITH THEIR WORKS ARE KAREN GIBSON, RED EARTH DESIGNS, ALISON LOWRY, GLASS ARTIST AND KATIE BROWN, TEXTILE DESIGNER.

The London Design Festival is the highlight of the UK design calendar, where the world gathers to celebrate great craft and design. This year, Etsy, the online marketplace, makes its mark with a selling exhibition of cross-disciplinary contemporary craft on 24th-27th September featuring six craft makers from Northern Ireland. The exhibition entitled, 'Four Corners of Craft', is a maker development and exhibition project supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. The six craft makers from Northern Ireland are Claire Gibson (ceramics), Lynsay-erin Mercer (ceramics),

Alison Lowry (glass), Rachel McKnight (jewellery), Elin Johnston (jewellery), and Katie Brown (textiles). Suzanne Lyle, Head of Visual Arts, Arts Council of Northern Ireland, commented; 'Being part of the prestigious London Design Festival is an outstanding international showcasing and business opportunity for these six skilled craft makers. Their impressive work shines a light on the talent we are lucky to have in the region with some of the makers incorporating cultural references and indigenous materials into their work.' The six makers are currently selling on Etsy. **www.etsy.com**

Margey to Open Summer Pop-Up Studio and Gallery Space in Portrush



PORTRUSH HARBOUR

Artist Adrian Margey will be moving his Kilrea studio to the North Coast this summer as part of an eight week residency in the seaside town of Portrush. His pop-up studio and gallery space will be open to the public each Friday to Sunday from 17th July onwards. A wide range of Margey's distinctive contemporary and traditional work

will be on sale and the artist will be available to discuss commissions. Artist Evana Bjourson will also be exhibiting her work in the gallery's portrait room. The pop-up studio and gallery is located at 99 Mark Street which is just off Main Street Portrush, opposite the car park entrance of the Ramada Hotel. It's shaping up to

be a busy summer for Margey, with his Annual Bank Holiday Weekend Exhibition at the Roe Park Resort Limavady running from 28th to 31st August also. **Visit www.adrianmargey.com to view a full portfolio of Margey's work or telephone 028 7941 8087/07841 593762 for more information.**



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N
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Ulster Weavers Reveals new Hand Crafted Lines to Collection



BUNNY DOORSTOP, £20/€28.

Be inspired this summer with some fresh additions to the Ulster Weavers S/S 2015 collection. The 2015 range takes its inspiration from seasonal key colour palettes, hand crafted prints and patterns. Ulster Weavers prides itself on quality, detail and beautiful design, that's why they source only the best when it comes down to building partnerships with designers. The quintessential 'Made in the UK' theme is taken one step further this season with several lovely additions from Kelly Hall. Kelly's designs focus on Modern Vintage collections inspired by the culture, landscape and heritage that can be found across the British Isles. All artwork is drawn and painted by hand using a mix of traditional paint and drawing techniques and materials - stretched paper, pencil and gouache. The finished products in this tea towel collection will put heart and soul back into your kitchen. Other seasonal highlights include beautiful florals with burnt oranges, pinks and hues of blue with the 'Emily' collection - a striking addition to complement interiors. If you like your home to flow from room to room or fancy a bit of fresh air with open doors, then the unique doorstop is also a must-have addition this summer. Designed by a team of talented and passionate creatives, the quirky characters like Dexter the Dog, Bunny, Penguin and Car will add plenty of charm to the home.

www.ulsterweavers.com

Cosentino Expands its Dekton® Range



NEW DEKTON® MAKAI FLOORING

The global leader in the production and distribution of innovative surfaces for the world of architecture and design, the Cosentino Group, is launching seven new colours into its existing Dekton® range. The new colours respond to the continual customer demand for neutral interiors and will be available from kitchen and bathroom studios from summer 2015. Now totalling 22 different colours, the range is divided into four Collections: Solid, Natural, Tech

and - new for 2015 - Wild. New to the market place, Dekton® has created a category of surface that is an ideal architectural and design solution for interiors and exteriors; particularly for kitchen and bathroom surface applications due to its high heat, stain and impact resistance as well as low porosity. With over five times the flexural strength of granite, it is available in ultra size slabs of 3200mm x 1440mm, three different thicknesses (8mm, 12mm, 20mm) and can be customised with different textures. www.dekton.com

Colortrend Selected for Participation in London Festival of Architecture



Irish owned paint brand Colortrend has been selected as the partner to Ireland's inaugural participation in the London Festival of Architecture. For the first time, Ireland has been selected as the Focus Country for the world-prestigious London Festival of Architecture. The Irish exhibition will include an installation at the TANK at the Design Museum. The installation is set to represent the life story of nine architectural spaces in Ireland and will run for the entire month of June. Liam Holland, Sales & Marketing Director

of Colortrend said, 'Ireland is the first design country to be hosted at the London Festival of Architecture and we are delighted to be involved with the TANK installation. At Colortrend our paint is of the highest possible quality and will create high impact across the installation which is made of timber poles, making an undulating and colourful field. This is just one of the ways we are supporting Irish design and architecture in 2015 and it's a fantastic initiative to be involved with. www.colortrend.ie

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forthcoming issue? It's easier than you think.



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editorial team and they will explain the process.

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Create the Style...

This feminine bedroom has been finished with red and white accessories to create a beautiful floral space.



Everything's Rosy

Julie Dodsworth Heart & Soul Collection by **Bedeck**. Double duvet cover, £50/€65. Oxford pillowcase, £10/€13 and housewife pillowcase, £8/€10. For your local Irish stockist phone 0845 6030861. www.bedeckhome.com www.juliedodsworth.com

...in the bedroom



Go Green

Green ivy leaf ball from **Sweetpea & Willow**. A beautiful accessory for your garden or home. £155. Phone 0845 257 2627. www.sweetpeaandwillow.com

Beaut Bunting

Floral design bunting from **Ginger Ray**. The alternate pastel pink and blue edged flags with floral design on this bunting is the perfect addition to any summer garden party. The bunting consists of 12 flags and is three metres in length. £8.99. Phone 0845 680 2975. www.gingerray.co.uk



White Light

Stonehaven spring and lever floor lamp available from **Lagoon**. Available in a range of colours: blue, dark grey, pastoral green, pure white, soft white and stone. £199. Phone 020 7129 1309. www.vivalagoon.com



Happy Heart

Hanging heart photo frame from **Retreat Home**. 5cm x 5cm. £7. Phone 016 2847 1056. www.retreat-home.com



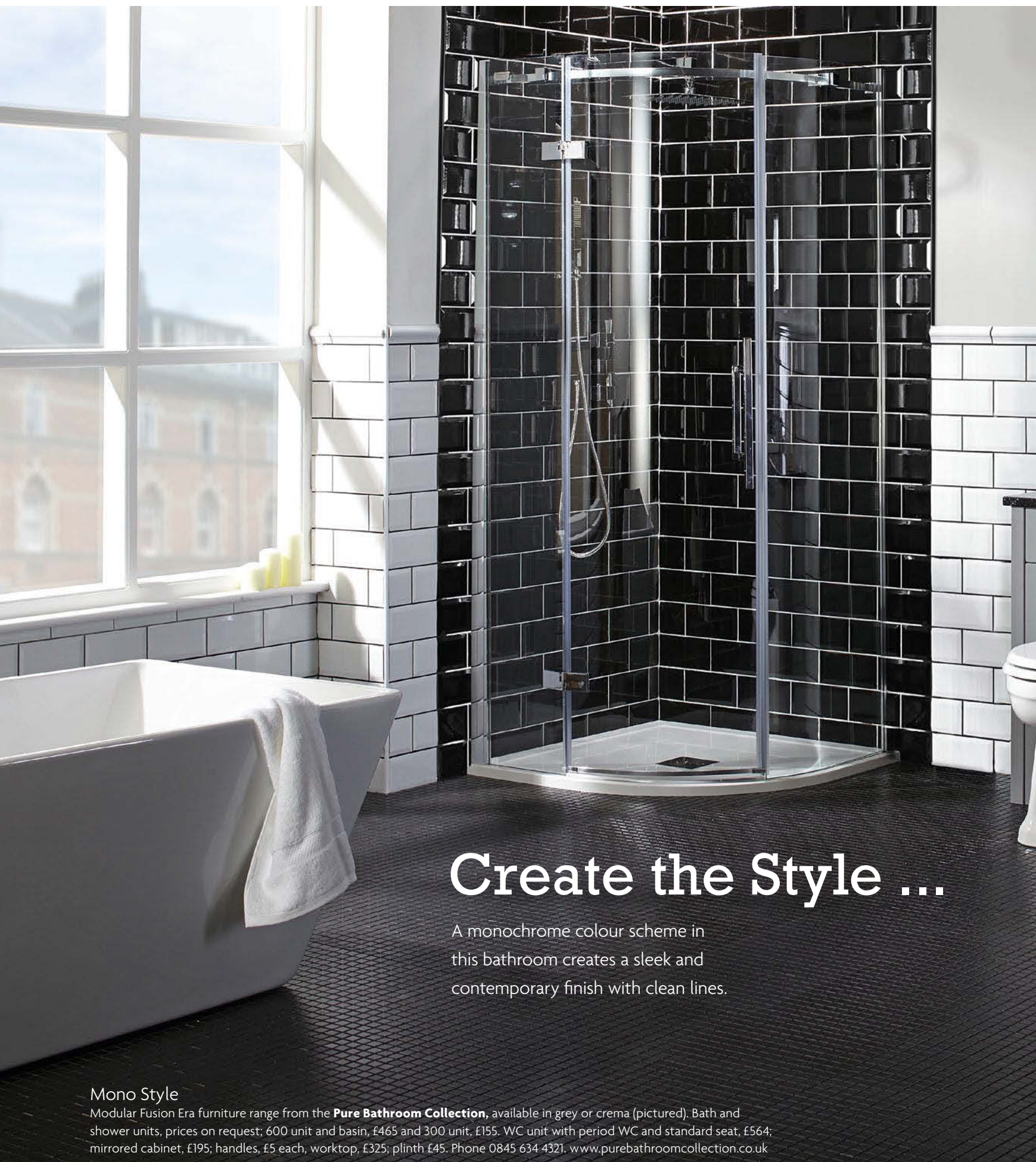
Cool Cushion

Polly pink rose and taupe floral cushion from **Gift Wrapped & Gorgeous**. Made from 100 per cent cotton. £25. Phone 012 0885 0988. www.giftwrappedandgorgeous.com



Sit Back

This reproduction Chinese elm chair from **Orchid Furniture** is lacquered to a traditional Cinnabar red finish. £490. Phone 012 6481 1111. www.orchidfurniture.co.uk



Create the Style ...

A monochrome colour scheme in this bathroom creates a sleek and contemporary finish with clean lines.

Mono Style

Modular Fusion Era furniture range from the **Pure Bathroom Collection**, available in grey or crema (pictured). Bath and shower units, prices on request; 600 unit and basin, £465 and 300 unit, £155. WC unit with period WC and standard seat, £564; mirrored cabinet, £195; handles, £5 each, worktop, £325; plinth £45. Phone 0845 634 4321. www.purebathroomcollection.co.uk



Power Shower

Cooke & Lewis Oceanis
Thermostatic Mixer
Shower. Price on request.
www.cookeandlewis.co.uk



Fade to Grey

Small taupe glass fronted wall cabinet by **Melody
Maison**. Made from wood with a taupe/grey
painted finish. £49.95. www.melodymaison.co.uk



Light Up

Java Black metal lantern by **Artisanti**. A stunning contemporary take
on a classic lantern design, this candle lantern will bring sleek, dark
elegance to home and garden. W16cm x H16cm x D59cm. £104. For
your nearest Irish stockist phone 0845 259 1410. www.artisanti.com



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www.firedearth.com

...in the bathroom



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The Parama is a large
freestanding rectangular shaped
bath. It is from **BC Designs'** new
Acrymite collection of baths
which have been created by
seamlessly joining the solid inner
and outer acrylic layers of the
bath together, creating a sleek
look with a gloss finish. £1,500.
Phone 012 0682 7100.
www.bcdesigns.co.uk

Wild West


From cowboys and indians to cowhide and tribal print, go wild and take inspiration from our pick of old western inspired treasures.



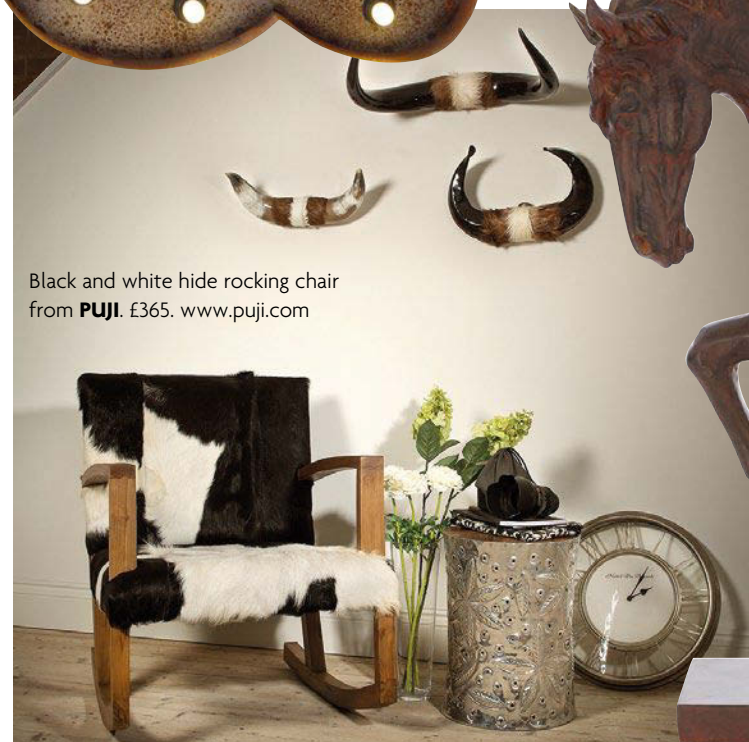
Arizona Natural dark cowhide from **Kelaty**. £379.
www.kelaty.com




Bedford tan cowhide basket from **Leather & Lavender**. £110.
www.leatherandlavender.co.uk



Rust ampersand marquee light from **Two Girls and a Container**. Price on request.
www.twogirlsandcontainer.com.au



Black and white hide rocking chair from **PUJI**. £365. www.puji.com

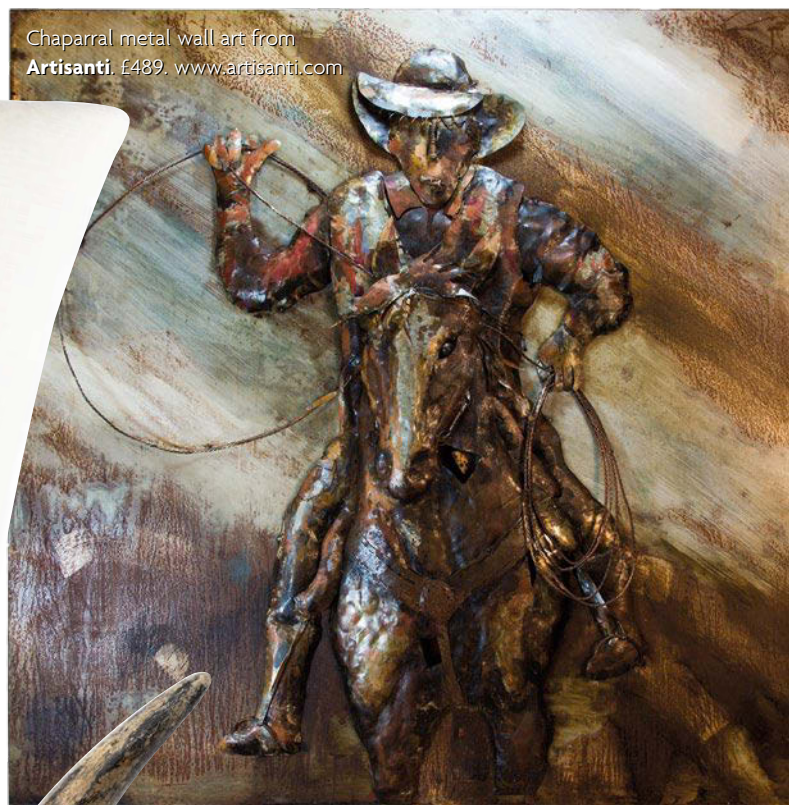


Horse ornament from **George Home**. Price on request.
www.george.com

Mystical horse cushion
from **Curio & Curio**. £39.
www.curioandcurio.com

Dakota cowhide
bar stool from
Eco chic. £284.24.
www.ecochic.au

Chaparral metal wall art from
Artisanti. £489. www.artisanti.com



Bowes black horn bookends
from **Artisanti**. £54.
www.artisanti.com

Montana sideboard from
Atkin & Thyme. £698.
www.atkinandthyme.co.uk



Moo Moo cowhide
trunk/coffee table from
Sweetpea & Willow. £785.
www.sweetpeaandwillow.com



Maya collection from **A Rum Fellow**.
£165 - £195 each. www.arumfellow.com

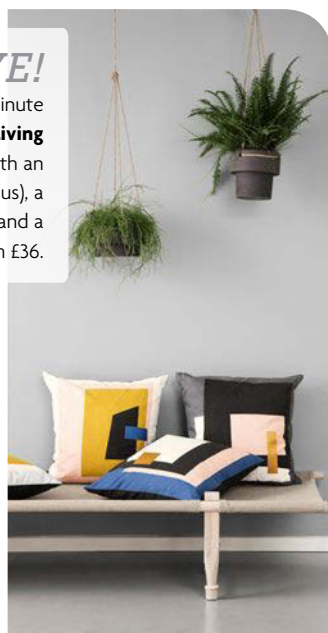


in the Know

This month Patricia McGinnis from Maven talks personalising your interiors and foliage is a major theme!

MUST HAVE!

I can't get enough of indoor plants at the minute and these hanging planters from **Ferm Living** are fuelling my addiction! I've filled mine with an amazing 'String of Pearls' (Senecio Rowleyanus), a succulent that is super easy to take care of and a great focal point. Available at **Maven** from £36.



Visit **thejungalow.com** and be transported to Justina Blakeney's colourful, bohemian, plant filled world. It's a feast for the eyes with inspirational and effortless style influenced by her multi-cultural upbringing and travels around the world. Justina has just published 'The New Bohemians' a collection of 20 vibrant and free-spirited homes.

3 of the best... Botanical wallpapers



Morris Seaweed
Morris & Co £58/roll



Palmeral
House of Hackey £148/roll



Chiavi Segrete
Cole & Son £80/roll



Expert Tip:

Your home should reflect who you are. There is nothing more interesting than visiting a house and literally not knowing where to look first, with glimpses into the owner's life tantalising you. This does not mean that you need clutter everywhere, but rather a carefully curated selection of 'things' that you love or find interesting or beautiful. Group these together to create interesting vignettes, or stories. I am a big fan of trays. Bunch things on a tray and they look deliberate – that a decision was made rather than things just lying about. Have a beautiful postcard or photograph you love? Then stick it on the wall with a bit of colourful washi tape. Don't be scared to layer patterns, you don't want everything to be too 'matchy matchy'. Stacks of books are great and give you levels on which to place some of your objects.



What's On: August Craft Month

A celebration of contemporary craft in Northern Ireland.

An annual celebration of contemporary craft in Northern Ireland, August Craft Month is delivered by a partnership of craft-related organisations across Northern Ireland and will include talks, exhibitions, workshops and demonstrations. The scene has never been more vibrant so be sure to check out the programme at www.craftni.org and get involved.

Safe and Stylish – The New Triton Safeguard⁺

If you're updating the family bathroom or simply require a safer showering solution, the new Safeguard⁺ thermostatic shower from Triton offers an *über* stylish solution.

Developed by Triton in association with an expert team of occupational therapists, the new Safeguard⁺ combines the best of functional design with simple controls and advanced safety features. Incorporating Triton's tried and tested Tri-Therm technology, the Safeguard⁺ delivers a constantly regulated water temperature within $\pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$, even if the toilet is flushed or the tap is used elsewhere in the house.

As well as boasting CE Mark and BEAB Care certification, the Safeguard⁺ is suitable for users with varying degrees of sight difficulties thanks to its simple grey and white design, while a timer can also be set so the shower automatically stops after 5, 10, 20 or 30 minutes.

With the Safeguard⁺, you don't have to compromise style for safety. The sleek white gloss design of the Safeguard⁺ complements its contrasting cool grey central controls for a classic look, while the large looped design of the temperature lever allows you to select your desired temperature setting even with just one finger. A cool grey, soft press start/stop button illuminates when the shower is ready for use and audible feedback also confirms the stop/start operations.

A stainless steel riser rail with an extra long hose allows for comfortable showering whether you're sitting or standing, while Triton has also developed an alternative sleek riser rail which can also be used as a grab rail if required, and a hard wired remote start/stop button that can be positioned up to five metres away from the Safeguard⁺ unit, making showering even easier. To reduce the risk of slipping or leaks due to water build up in a shower tray or wet room, the new shower is also compatible with analogue and digital waste pumps, which can be installed separately.

The Safeguard⁺ is easy to install, and the unit's footprint also helps to conceal any existing fixing holes or exposed plaster if replacing an existing electric shower unit. As Triton Showers is renowned for prompt and efficient after sales service and is based locally in Earthridge International in Co Kildare, you can make your choice with absolute confidence that you're buying from Ireland's leading shower company.

Ensure your shower is safe for all the family with a new Triton Safeguard⁺ shower, RRP €410.

Check out the full range of Triton showers at all good bathroom stockists and builders merchants.



TRITON

The Great Irish Shower Company 

www.tritonshowers.ie

Distributed by Earthridge International, Dowdstown, Maynooth, Co Kildare. Tel: 01 6286845/01 6286711 Email: sales@earthridge.ie



Wrights Design House

Wrights Design House reflect 50 years of success within their kitchen showroom.



DAVID AND GLEN WRIGHT

The first thing a potential client will see when entering this showroom is the 50th Anniversary kitchen – a luxury bespoke, handpainted solid wood kitchen.

This was created to mark 50 years of success in the kitchen industry, and has been extremely successful so far,' explains Director Glen Wright.

While the name Wrights Design House has only been in existence since a major rebrand two years ago, the company itself has been in operation for over 50 years under the previous name of Be-Right Kitchens. As for this current showroom, it has been at this location for six years now, and they are currently redeveloping and extending it.

The showroom features a stylish range of kitchens, across a broad price bracket. With a rapidly increasing share of the top end of the market in Belfast and surrounding areas, Wrights has tailored the refit of their showroom to reflect this.

Along with an extensive range of kitchen designs and furniture, customers can expect the highest level of professionalism and service. 'We have a highly trained and experienced team,

and have recently won Irish Kitchen Designer of the Year. We make our customers feel special, ensuring they leave the showroom happy with the options that they have been given,' adds Glen.

'We are just finishing the install of our ground breaking 'JURA' kitchen. The design team and I went to Switzerland to source unique material specifically for this design. It will be the first time this material has been used in the creation of a kitchen in Ireland. We also offer our 'Nocturnal Collection' of kitchens, again a unique product in Ireland, as we have created and perfected a process which involves finishing the kitchen in paints from luxury car manufacturers, applied in an international standard car spraying facility.'

Customers are made to feel relaxed and welcome in this ambient showroom, where you can avail of refreshments on arrival at the specially created coffee station before inspecting the kitchen designs with the subtle sounds of a bespoke playlist to put you at ease.

Opening Hours:
Monday to Wednesday: 9am-5pm
Thursday: 9am-9pm & Saturday: 9am-1pm

Wrights Design House
Temple Cross
90 Carryduff Road
Lisburn BT27 6YL

Phone: 028 9263 9964
www.wrightsdeshignhouse.com



Nautical but Nice

Recreate coastal style this summer by adding nautical elements to your home and wardrobe. Here is some inspiration from The OUTLET, Banbridge.

At The OUTLET, value is always in style - browse top quality home brands Denby, Christy and Villeroy & Boch offered at 30% - 70% off RRP as well as renowned fashion brands such as Olsen, offering style for less and greater value on timeless pieces to update your interior and wardrobe. So kick back and enjoy relaxed summer style with a little help from The OUTLET.



THE OUTLET
VILLAGE BANBRIDGE

WWW.THE-OUTLET.CO.UK
Always between 30% to 70% off RRP



Carla Doyle

Carla Doyle lives in Drumkeeran in Co. Leitrim. She is a full time ceramic artist, when she is not on mummy duties for her two children. With her company, Happy Duck Ceramics, Carla creates a wide range of things in her studio from earthenware clay.

Carla explains, 'I make what ever takes my fancy on the day really,' she says. 'It can be buttons or anything from framed art work to bunny figurines, I also do commission work for people, making framed art with wording for weddings or new babies, and I have been known to make mushroom figures for people too. I usually start with a rough doodle on paper and then expand the design on to the clay, which is the best part!'

Carla grew up in Oxfordshire in England and moved to Ireland with her parents and brother in 1998. 'We are a very creative family with my mother, aunt and cousins all trying to follow the creative artistic path. As a child I would watch my mum draw or go to my aunt's and watch her paint, so painting and drawing was something we always did as children. I took art at school but never really did anything with it after leaving and I went into accounts instead! After having my children I wanted to do something that I loved and I had control over, so about 10 years ago I started sewing quilts and toys for my daughter. In 2014 my mother-in-law (who has been a potter for around 40 years) gave me her old test kiln which is a kiln for testing glazes on pots and bowls etc and that's when it all started. I hadn't done much ceramic work before this and I have had to learn as I go along. I didn't do much in the beginning, I only made a few buttons for things I was sewing, but then it expanded into what I do today.'

'I take inspiration from everything around me, from something my children have said to me to all the shapes and colours of nature. I really love gardening and I adore flowers of all shapes and sizes, so a lot of my work contains flower images or other natural elements like the weather. I like bright colours and I love how nature has so many different colours all mixed up together in no order. My work is random like nature. A lot of ceramics I have seen are dull and lack brightness or detail,



detail is very important to me and I want to add as much as I can to each piece.'

Carla continues, 'My plans for the future are to have an exhibition of my work as that has not happened yet and just go from there really. Its important to me to enjoy what I do every day, and not to get into a rut of making things I don't like. I want to watch my children grow and use these experiences to keep my work alive. I would love to do a ceramics course too at some point and learn how other people do it! Not that this is massively important as what I do works for me and I am going to carry on in the same way, I have never had someone sit me down and say, 'this is how you work with clay', I figured that part out myself, but I am always open to new ideas and techniques and will try anything if it's fun.'

www.happyduckceramics.com



COMPETITION

Ireland's Homes Interiors & Living along with Happy Duck Ceramics are offering one lucky prize winner the chance to win a Fairy Tea Lighthouse which is worth €75.

How to enter

Answer the following question:
Where did Carla grow up?

Send your answer, name, address, email and phone number marked **Carla Doyle Competition** to Ireland's Homes Interiors & Living magazine, PO Box 42, Bangor, County Down, BT19 7AD or Ashgrove House, Kill Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, County Dublin or enter online at: www.ihil.net

Entries must be received no later than 5pm on Friday 31st July 2015. One entry per household. One separate email/postcard for each competition. Judge's decision is final. No cash alternative. Prizes are -non-transferable.

If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter please include your email address with your entry.





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IKT AWARDS 2014-15

Ireland's Kitchen Trade Awards 2014-15

The fourth Ireland's Kitchen Trade Awards evening sponsored by Dekton by Cosentino took place on Friday 21st November 2014 at a black tie event in Titanic Belfast. We have been focusing on the various category winners and this month we profile the winner of Supplier 2014-15 sponsored by Ireland's Kitchen Trade Guide.

AWARDS CATEGORY: SUPPLIER 2014-15

WINNER: *Uform*

CATEGORY SPONSORED BY



Lisa Sykes from Ireland's Kitchen Trade Guide pictured with Paul Donnelly from Uform.

**JUDGES COMMENT:**

The judges were very impressed with Uform's systematic approach to its business, its attention to its customers and the support systems it had in place to manage its operations and sales. Every aspect of the business had very high standards, from its customer service, showrooms to the overall attention to detail and commitment to get it right. Uform has adapted to a changing business climate, maintained a loyal workforce and provided its customers with innovative and quality product and services that have all contributed to its success.

WINNER'S COMMENT:

Uform has a very clear strategic plan in place, which in the last two years has seen the company realise phenomenal growth. Given the challenges associated with this aggressive growth, it is particularly gratifying for Uform to win this award. We simply have the best people, who all work as a team with the correct attitude and a real sense of what satisfying the customer really means. Without happy returning customers, we would not be in business. I would like to offer a huge 'thank you' to all our employees and indeed, our customers, for their ongoing business. Upwards and onwards, the future is bright at Uform.



Uform. Phone 028 7965 1650. www.uform.co.uk

For further information visit www.iktg.ie



Modern Vibes

Contemporary styling was reserved for the living room or bedroom, but now there are so many options for you to create a modern and sleek environment in your bathroom.



Teuco Accademia Gessato limited edition bathtub. Price on request.



Contemporary design can be adapted in a bathroom of any size, and works particularly well in smaller bathroom spaces due to its minimalistic and seamless aspects. When it comes to choosing materials for your contemporary bathroom, such as flooring, anything goes, but the way you display it and the finish is key. Granite, stone and wood are popular choices for contemporary design.

Colour choices aren't necessarily limited but there is a particular emphasis on soothing simplicity when it comes to contemporary. Light greys and blues, and of course monochrome, always give a contemporary feel.

Standalone, floating or unusually shaped sinks help in creating a more modern look, and even consider your taps as these can add to the overall look.

Glass divides and panelling really add to a contemporary design, with frameless doors and seamless shower trays, which helps to create a room which flows.



1 Glide II in American Walnut from **Bauhaus**, Plus+ Ton matt black worktop and inset basin H600 (with basin) x W1,000 x D450mm. £1670. Euro price on request. **2** Designed by Meneghello Paoletti Associates, CLOUD from **Fima** is composed of two different levels and forms with the upper plate acting as a LED reflector for mood-lighting: Red, Green and White lighting effects are available. The shower-head is in chrome and the plate in white - where mood-lighting is requested - or else the entire shower plus plate can be in black or chrome. £1,500. Euro price on request. **3** **Matki** straight wetroom panel sizes from 500mm to 1,500mm from £559.20. Euro price on request.

4 Enjoy the extra wide radius of this XXL head shower from **GROHE**, which features GROHE's innovative Dream Spray technology ensuring balanced water delivery from each nozzle for the perfect shower. £2,689/€3,719.

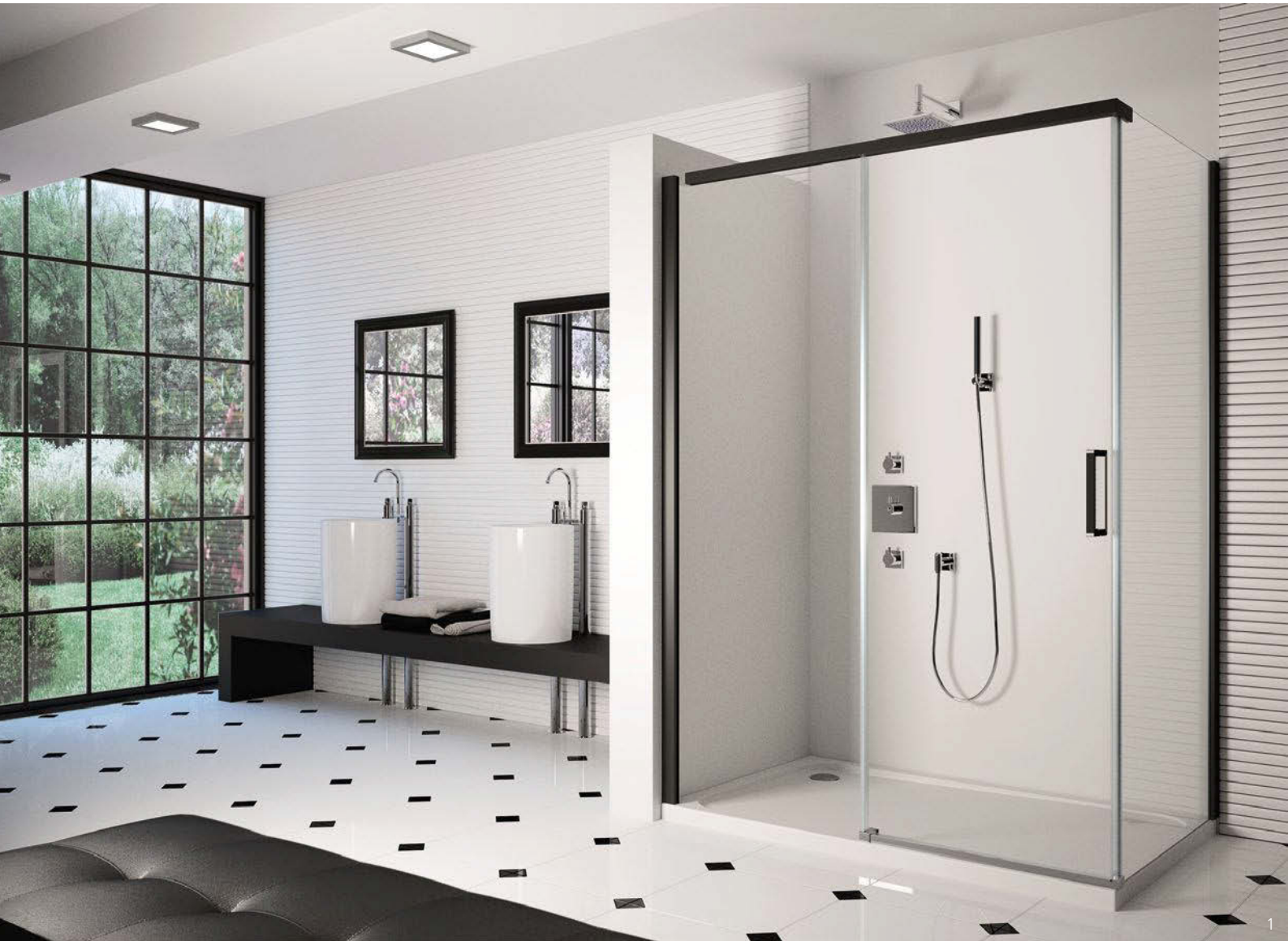
5 The **Vitra** Memoria 75cm oval basin in a matt black finish retails. From £630. Euro price on request. **6** As a surface-mounted shower solution, the Showerpipe from **Hansgrohe** combines all advantages in a single system: ShowerTablet Select 700, Rainmaker Select overhead shower and a Raindance hand shower. The white glass and gleaming metal provide a visual link to the elements in the bathroom. £3,520/€4,913.







1 Dial from **Crosswater**; the latest in push button valve technology, which enables precise control of the water flow and temperature. Thermostatic intelligence and sleek design combines to present a state-of-the-art valve that allows the ultimate in water control for a bathing and showering experience that will change the function of on/off showering control at the touch of a button. Price on request. **2** Cape Cod from **Duravit** is captivating not only because of its unique design, but first and foremost because of its authentic materials, solid real wood and an innovative ceramic formula which allows for especially thin and delicate wash bowls. Pictured is: Cape Cod floor standing vanity unit, measuring 1120 x 570mm, £3,289/€4,651, in white high gloss; Cape Cod Mirror with LED lighting, measuring 766 x 60mm, £2,008/€2,840; Cape Cod wash bowl (square) measuring 460 x 460mm, £308/€434; Cape Cod freestanding bathtub, measuring 1,855 x 885mm (depth 485mm), £2,665/€3,769. **3** Triton Thames bar mixer shower. £335/€430. **4** Wall mounted three hole basin set on plate with lever handles and chrome finish, taps from **Perrin & Rowe**. £606.24/€844.07. **5** Clearwater Palermo basin. Price on request.



1 Merlyn Showers new 8 Series Colour range which delivers a very different and contemporary look. The colours available are matt white, matt black, gold and polished chrome. These sliding doors are available with and without a side panel. Sizes are 1,200mm and 1,400mm with either a 800mm or 900mm end panel. The glass is a toughened 8mm and the doors are 2,000mm high. Prices start at €1,329.63. Sterling price on request. **2** Fine basin from **Britton**. Price on request. **3 Mira** Fluency tap combines fluid beauty with geometric precision. £250. Euro price on request. **4** Plus+ Ton shower trays from **Simpsons**. Price on request.

STOCKISTS

B

Bauhaus

01322 475800 (s).
www.bauhaus-bathrooms.co.uk

Britton

Beggs & Partners,
Ballymena 028 2564 5121,
Belfast 028 9023 5791,
Lisburn 028 9262 1133,
Newtownards 028 9182 6680,
Maghera 028 7964 5599,
Portadown 028 3839 2000.
0845 5390055 (s).
www.brittonbathrooms.com

C

Clearwater

028 9266 9378 (s).
www.clearwaterbaths.com

Crosswater

Soaks Bathrooms,
Belfast 028 9068 1121.
www.crosswater.co.uk

D

Duravit

Beggs & Partners,
Ballymena 028 2564 5121,
Belfast 028 9023 5791,
Lisburn 028 9262 1133,
Newtownards 028 9182 6680,
Maghera 028 7964 5599,
Portadown 028 3839 2000.
Fawcett & Co, Belfast 028 9068 6900.
Haldane Fisher, Newry 028 3026 3201,
Bangor 028 9127 1711,
Belfast 028 9066 5000 and
028 9022 5000, Lisburn 028 9267 6161,
Portadown 028 3833 7321 and
028 3884 0440.
0845 500 7787 (s).
www.duravit.co.uk

F

FIMA

www.fimacf.com (s).

G

Grohe

AGM Distributors,
Belfast 028 9045 2613.
www.grohe.co.uk

H

Hansgrohe

Beggs & Partners,
Ballymena 028 2564 5121,
Belfast 028 9023 5791,
Lisburn 028 9262 1133,
Newtownards 028 9182 6680,
Maghera 028 7964 5599,
Portadown 028 3839 2000.
Ideal Bathrooms, Dublin 01 4609911.
Original Bathrooms & Tiles,
Cork 021 4310000.
Versatile, Navan 046 9029444.
01372 465655 (s).
www.hansgrohe.co.uk

M

Matki

Beggs & Partners,
Ballymena 028 2564 5121,
Belfast 028 9023 5791,
Lisburn 028 9262 1133,
Newtownards 028 9182 6680,
Maghera 028 7964 5599,
Portadown 028 3839 2000.
Haldane Fisher, Bangor 028 9127 1711,
Belfast 028 9022 5000,
Coleraine 028 7035 4911,
Larne 028 2826 1560,
Lisburn 028 9267 6161,
Newry 028 3026 3201 and
Newtownstewart 028 3833 7321.
www.matki.co.uk (s).

Merlyn Showers

Beggs & Partners,
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Newtownards 028 9182 6680,
Maghera 028 7964 5599,
Portadown 028 3839 2000.
Fawcett & Co. Belfast 028 9068 6900.



Dublin 056 7791555 (s).
www.merlynshowering.com

Mira

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Belfast 028 9023 5791,
Lisburn 028 9262 1133,
Newtownards 028 9182 6680,
Maghera 028 7964 5599,
Portadown 028 3839 2000.
Fawcett & Co,
Belfast 028 9068 6900.
Soaks Bathrooms,
Belfast 028 9068 1121.
www.mirashowers.co.uk

P

Perrin & Rowe

Bodel Distributors,
Lisburn 028 9267 2412 (s).
www.perrinandrowe.co.uk

S

Simpsons

www.bathroombrandsuk.com (s).

T

Teuco

Versatile, Navan 046 9029444.
Bathrooms Beautiful,
Carlow 059 9131764.

Davies Ltd., Dublin 01 8511700.
Glenhill Merchants,
Belfast 028 9066 9444.
www.teuco.com

Triton

PTS, Naas 045 887 190,
Enniskillen 028 6632 3888,
Newry 028 30 831340.
Haldane Fisher, Newry 028 3026 3201
www.tritonshowers.co.uk

V

Vitra

Beggs & Partners,
Ballymena 028 2564 5121,
Belfast 028 9023 5791,
Lisburn 028 9262 1133,
Newtownards 028 9182 6680,
Maghera 028 7964 5599,
Portadown 028 3839 2000.
The Conran Shop,
Dublin 01 8050400.
www.vitra.com

READER'S REFERENCE:

(s) = Phone for stockist details.



An Idyllic Retreat

Marc and Michael found their perfect foreign property on the beautiful island of Ibiza. Their home away from home throughout the year, they also have turned this luxury development into a business venture.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY FEDERICO LURAGHI.





London-based interior designer Marc and his partner Michael, who hails from Armagh, had been traveling to Ibiza for quite some years and knew this would be the perfect location to purchase a second property. Having come to this conclusion, it then took a further two to three years to find the right property.

‘When we happened upon this property in the hills of San Agustí on the west side of the island, we could see how to develop it and turn it into the

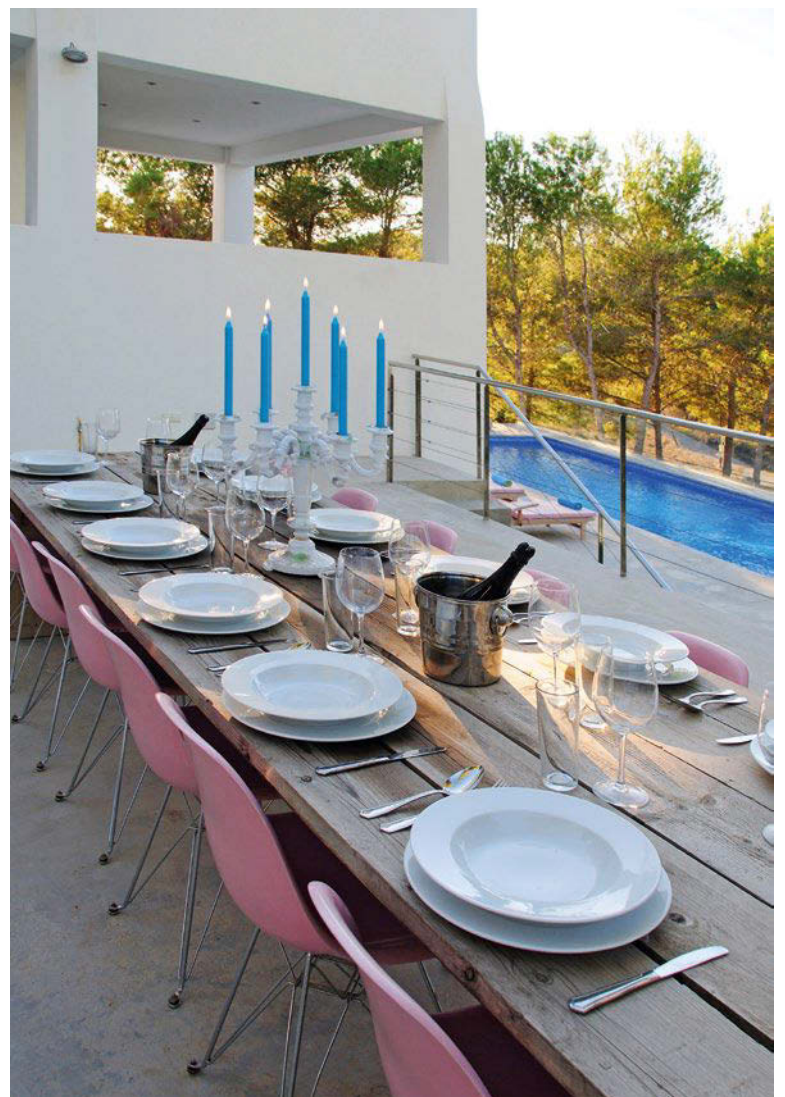


The living and dining room afford spectacular views of the surrounding hills with olive and almond groves, and unrivaled views of the harbour.

home we wanted,' explains Marc. 'Fortunately, when developing it from the small building it was into the home you see today, we were extremely lucky with our contractors and we worked closely with a nearby family who still help to maintain or make any changes to the property to this day. We have heard the horror stories, but we didn't encounter any problems at all.'

The house has a superb location being only 15 minutes from the airport and Ibiza town and San Jose is five minutes away by car.



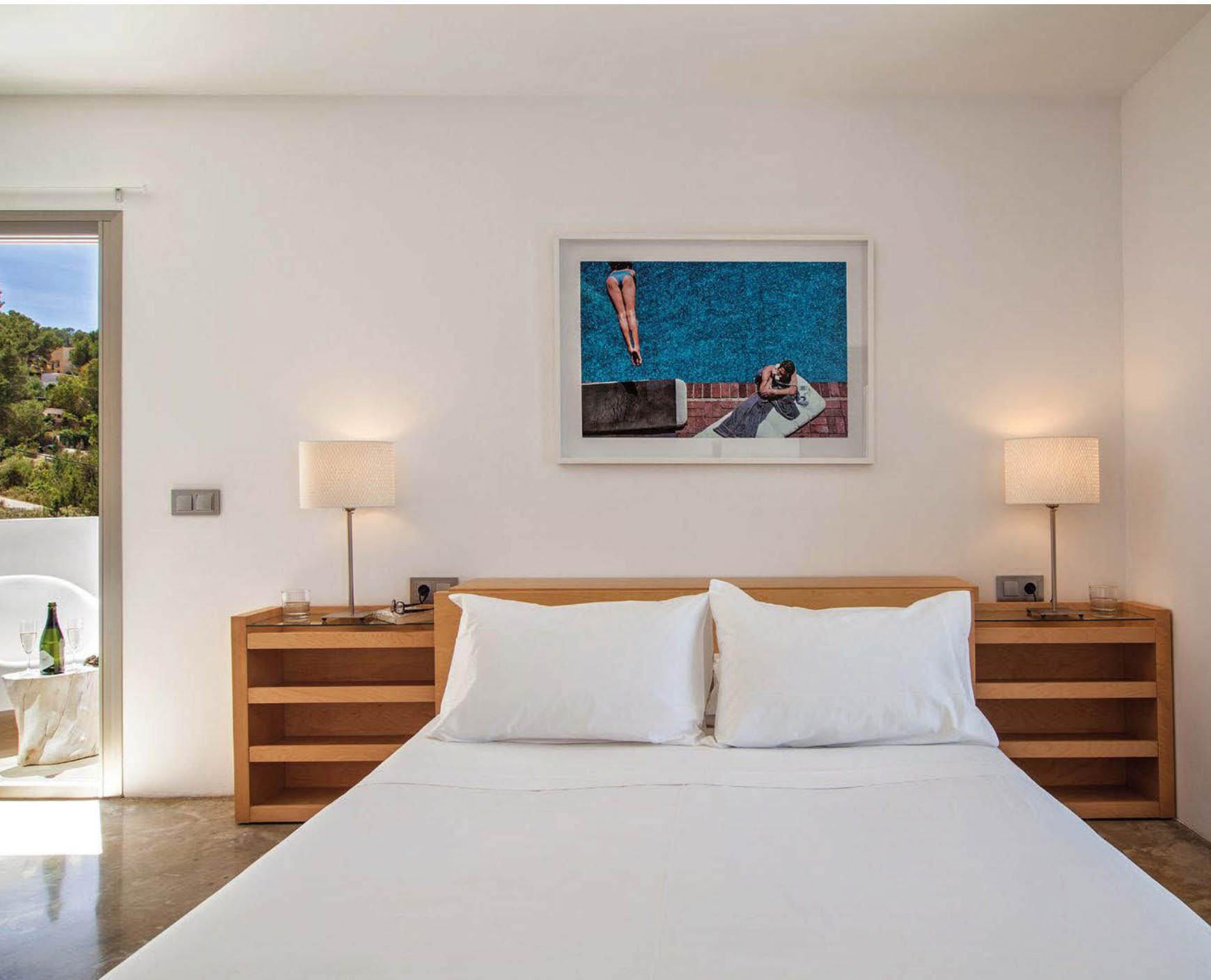


The surrounding area is a fully protected conservation area under Ibiza law, providing privacy and tranquillity and boasting many fantastic, signposted walking and bicycle routes in the vicinity.

‘The fact that this particular site was part of a protected conservation area was also a huge draw,’ adds Marc. ‘There will be no further urbanisation of the surrounding area, therefore, we don’t run the risk of other buildings springing up around us and spoiling our views and the overall tranquillity.’

While Michael focused on the exterior, structural design of the property, Marc concentrated on the interior. The end result is a stunning, luxurious yet comfortable home which makes the most of Ibiza’s 325 days of sun!

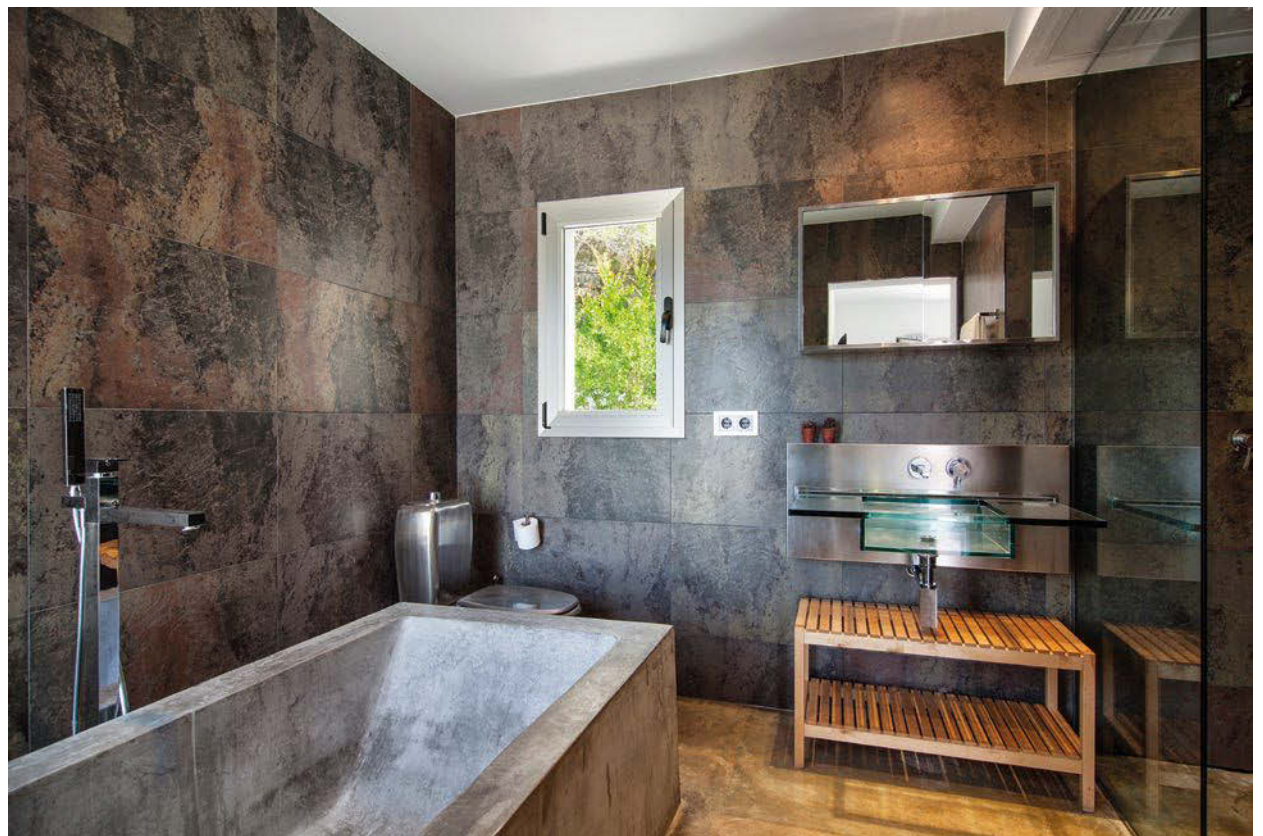
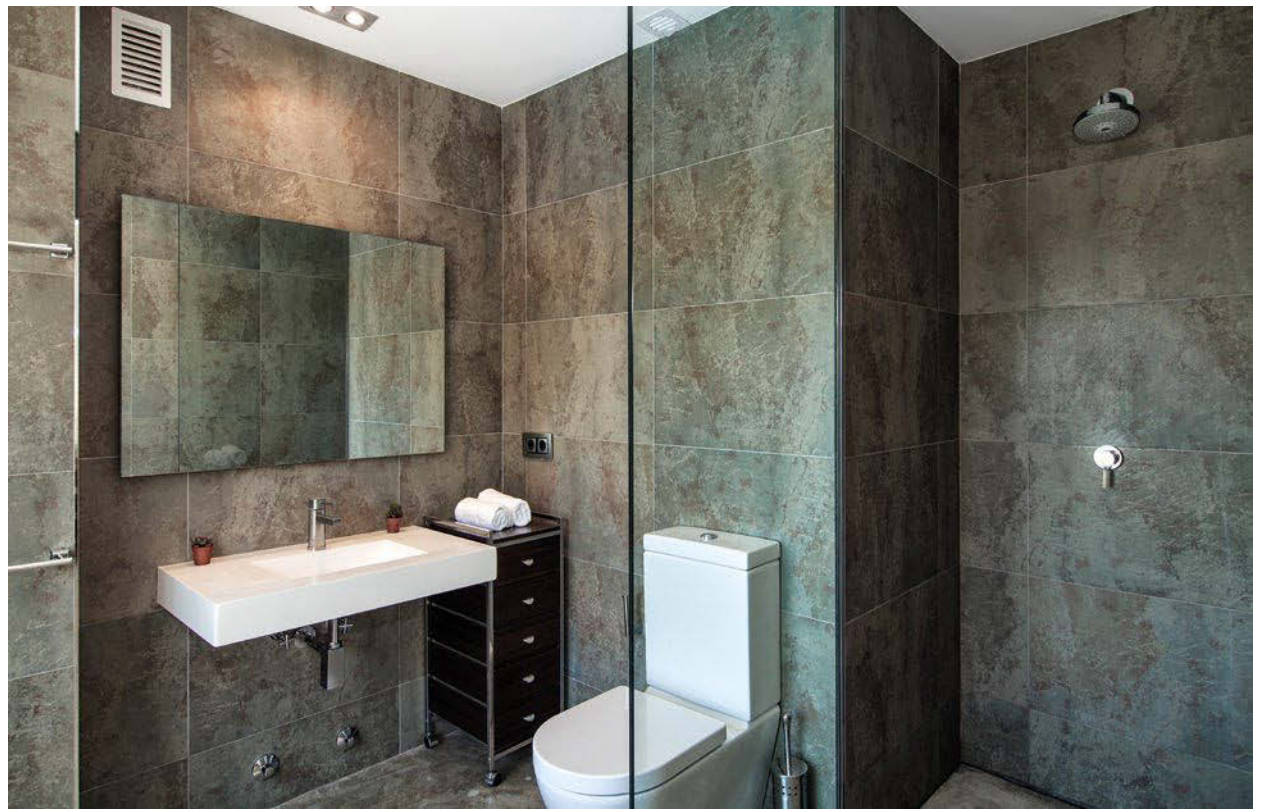
As Marc explains, ‘We have made good use of the grounds around the house, which had to be terraced due to the sloping plot. In total there is 2,600m² of tended gardens across three different areas. The tranquil, bottom garden offers a rich array of wild flowers that explode with colour during the summer months and boasts a separate chill out area. There is a romantic hammock hidden away beneath two magnificent pine trees. The upper garden has been designed as a fruit grove with five different kinds of oranges, lemon, lime, pomegranate, almond, olive, and apricot trees.



The master bedroom has an ensuite with slate bathroom including a concrete tub and a two person rain shower which opens to a private wrap around terrace with incredible views of the surrounding hills and harbour.

Then the outdoor dining and seating area fronts the gardens and offers views of the pool and lower grounds. This area houses a built-in double BBQ and has access to both the upper gardens and the pool deck.

The pool is the social focal point of the house, commanding stunning views of the surrounding countryside and the Mediterranean beyond. 'This is the perfect space for relaxing and entertaining all year round,' says Marc. 'From morning to evening the pool area offers comfy day beds, easy access to the outdoor dining area and it's changing room and bathroom.'



'We installed a sound system here too which affords us or our guests music throughout the day. One of the best times has to be sitting out here as the sun sets, with relaxing music playing in the background and a chilled drink in hand!'

The living and dining room afford spectacular views of the surrounding hills with olive and almond groves, and unrivaled views of the harbour. The living area is a large rectangular room, with views on three sides, a private balcony and external access to the pool deck and gardens below. It is furnished with an eight-metre L-shaped sofa by Capellini and atmospheric fireplace.



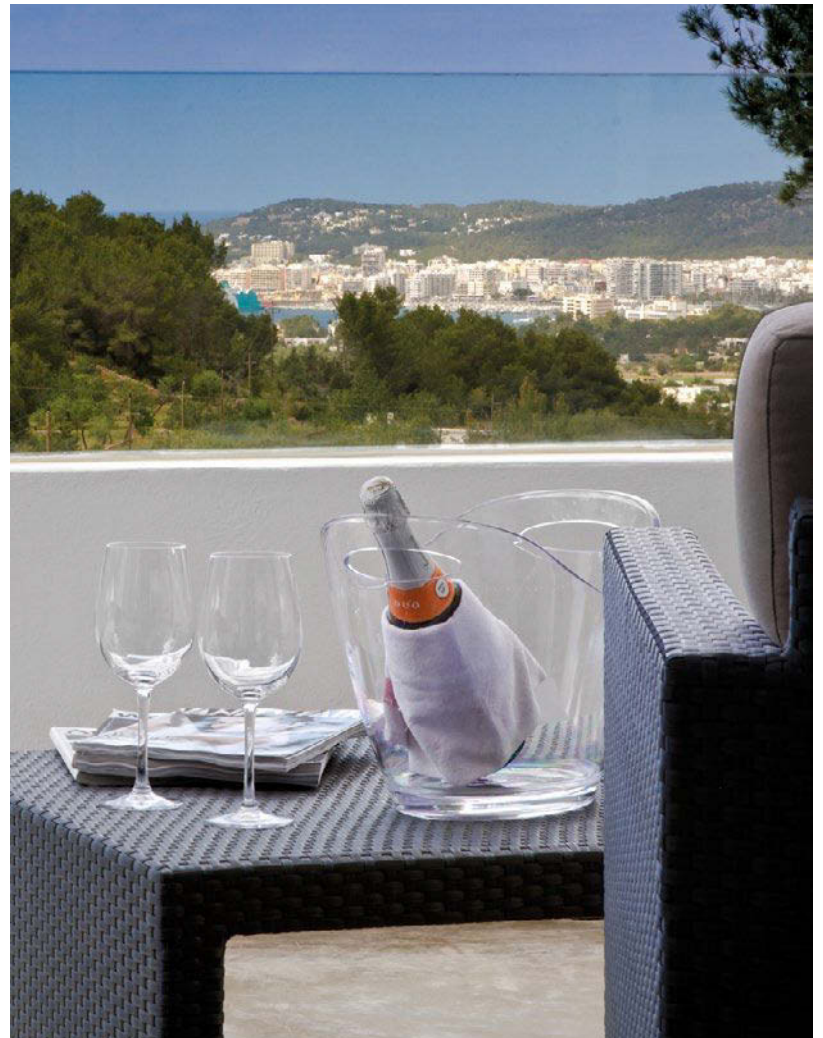
The pool is the social focal point of the house, commanding stunning views of the surrounding countryside and the Mediterranean beyond.





The dining room boasts a Poliform dining table and six original Eames fibreglass chairs from Modernica in Los Angeles and leads to an outside covered terrace with two armchairs perfect for quiet reading or enjoying sunset cocktails. The other side leads to a stainless steel kitchen which is equipped with industrial restaurant quality appliances from Siemens and Liebherr.

There are six bedrooms in total. Two on the lower level, which share a bathroom and the remaining four on the upper level. Of these four, the master bedroom has an ensuite with slate bathroom including a concrete tub and a two person rain shower which opens to a private wrap around terrace with incredible views of the surrounding hills and harbour. Another one of these four bedrooms also boasts its own private terrace with a large picture box window in the ensuite bathroom which looks out at the harbour making you feel like you are showering outdoors! All six bedrooms boast an airy, modern décor, luxurious beds and large built in wardrobes.





‘I have opted for soft pastel shades of pink and blue as the main contrast to the white used throughout the interior and exterior of the house. I wanted to keep the property light and airy,’ comments Marc.

While this is where Marc and Michael call home when they are in Ibiza, they also rent the home out to holidaymakers via their website www.lafabricaibiza.com. As well as enjoying this amazing property, guests also avail of a complimentary concierge service and if needed a chef, a yoga teacher to teach a private practice on the secluded sunset terrace in the lower garden, a child minder, booking beds on beaches (Blue Marlin, El Chiringuito etc.) and tables at restaurants/clubs.

‘Michael and I love returning here regularly and enjoying the luxury of our idyllic Ibizan retreat!’ 🏠

Create the look

FROM THE IBIZA HOME

*Marc and Michael have created a relaxed
vibe in their home away from home in Ibiza.*



Charles Eames DSR
Chair from **Voga**. £139.
www.voga.com/uk

Sweetpea & Willow's silver
aluminium wine cooler. £42.
www.sweetpeaandwillow.co.uk



Rume Florence grey sofa. Price on request. www.rume.co.uk



Pastel pink Phoenix cushion from
Made. £28. www.made.com



The DM1800 series of modern Danish coffee tables
from **Wharfside**. £1,740. www.wharfside.co.uk



PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDERS HVIID.

A House Full of Contrasts

More space and a more functional interior were the main criteria when Frank, Sofie and their children Carl and Olga, as well as Frank's two children, Ane and Iben were looking for a new family home eight years ago in Copenhagen. By playing with the contrast between new and old, and black and white, the couple has transformed this old building into a modern home for a family of six.







When Frank and Sofie went in search of their new family home, the big question then was whether they should buy a cheaper house in the suburb, which would require two cars, or whether they should stay in the city. The answer was simple. Since none of them had much desire of a commuting life, the house hunt ended when the couple fell in love with this completely renovated union building town house from 1898 located on the outskirts of Østerbro, the eastern part of Copenhagen. The neighbourhood is known as Komponistkvarteret (The Composer District) due to its street names, named after famous composers and comprises an enclave of 393 town houses originally built for the workers at the local shipyard with one family living on each floor. However, this house is now the perfect family home covering four floors and a basement.



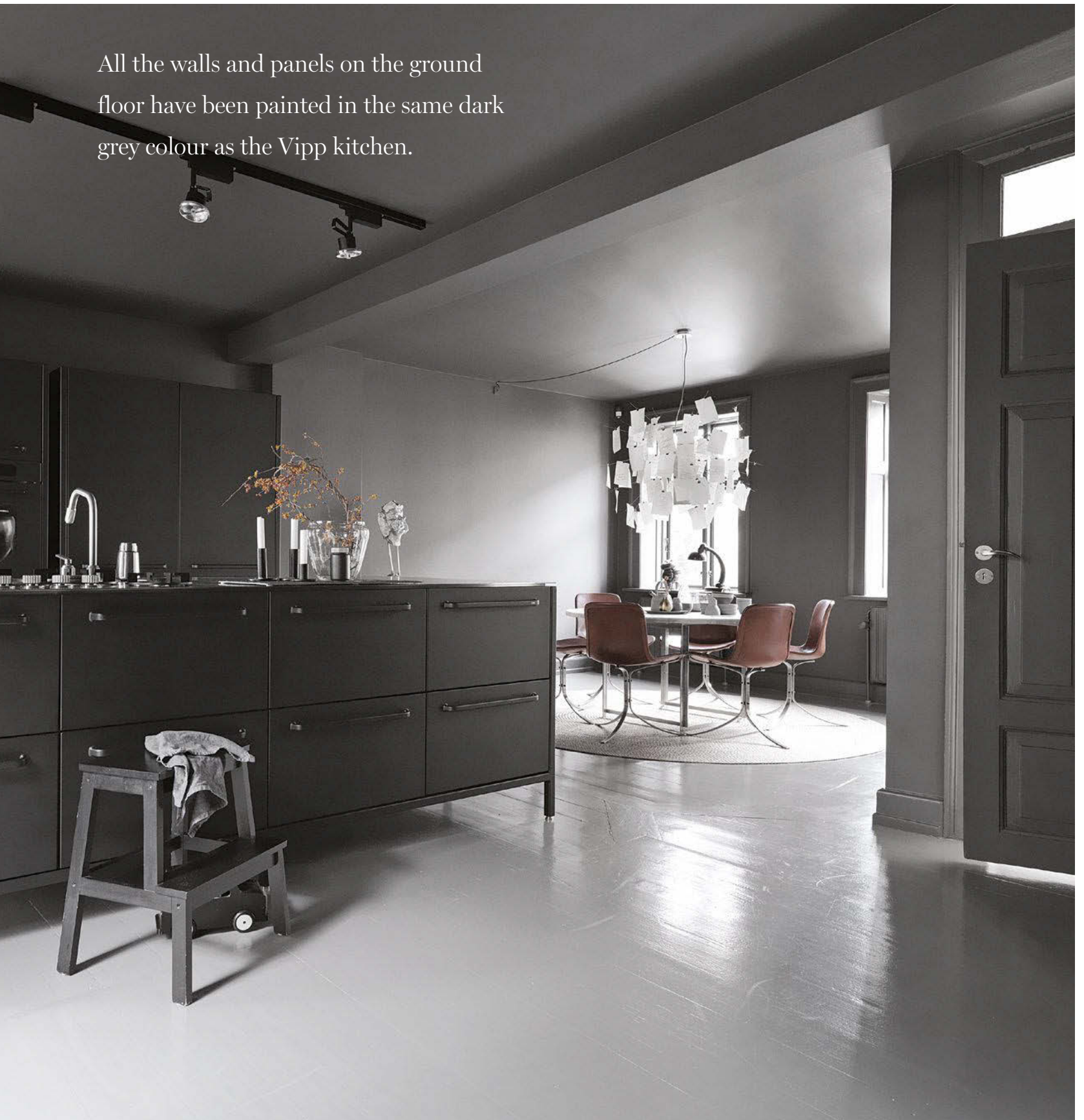






‘We realised that we loved the city too much to move to the suburb. We were on quite a house hunt before we fell in love with this house, situated perfectly between the water and the city. The neighbourhood is like a little oasis in the city with lots of playful children and people with thermos under their arm. The combination of a very social neighbourhood and highly functional house with many floors for our big family made it the perfect choice for us,’ explains Sofie.

All the walls and panels on the ground floor have been painted in the same dark grey colour as the Vipp kitchen.



Sofie's interest in functionality is not inherited from strangers. Her grandparents Marie and Holger were in fact the couple behind the story of the Vipp pedal bin. Holger was a metal smith and created the pedal bin for Marie, who needed a practical waste bin for her newly opened hairdressing salon back in 1939. Soon, the bin became a permanent feature in Danish dental and medical clinics.





‘What I love most about my home is the balance between new and old and the graphic play between black and white, light and darkness; a modern interior in old frame that brings out the soul of the house.’

When her grandparents died both Sofie’s mother, brother and Sofie herself joined the company, with the wish to make Vipp accessible to design enthusiasts worldwide and in 2009, Vipp had the honour of being accepted into the permanent design and architecture collection at MoMA in New York. High functionality is still the essence of the company and the family’s shared DNA. Indeed, it was equally the approach when renovating the more than 100 year old town house from basement to the fourth floor before the family moved in.

‘We stripped the house completely. All layers until the original bricks were removed. We even removed one of the two original chimneys, which went from cellar to attic, and claimed much needed space. It was a radical decision, but a necessary one in order to liberate space in a house with many stairs and small levels. We peeled it down floor by floor and brick by brick, and afterwards we continued the renovation by moving walls and downpipes. In other words, we completely changed the floor plan and layout of several rooms to maximise space and functionality,’ says Sofie.





‘We are both very dedicated when we want something, and don’t rest until it’s achieved,’ adds Sofie.

This also applies to the interior decoration, where all the walls and panels on the ground floor have been painted in the same dark grey colour as the Vipp kitchen.

‘The kitchen stands out as a warm contrast to the rest of the floors’ white surfaces and has in my opinion become the most interesting room in the house,’ says Sofie, who in spite of the thorough renovation feels that the key, original features have been preserved.

During the renovation, the couple removed the artificial stucco and French doors, which felt



unnatural in a house built for shipyard workers. However, the original flooring and beams characteristic for the construction period still decorate the house.

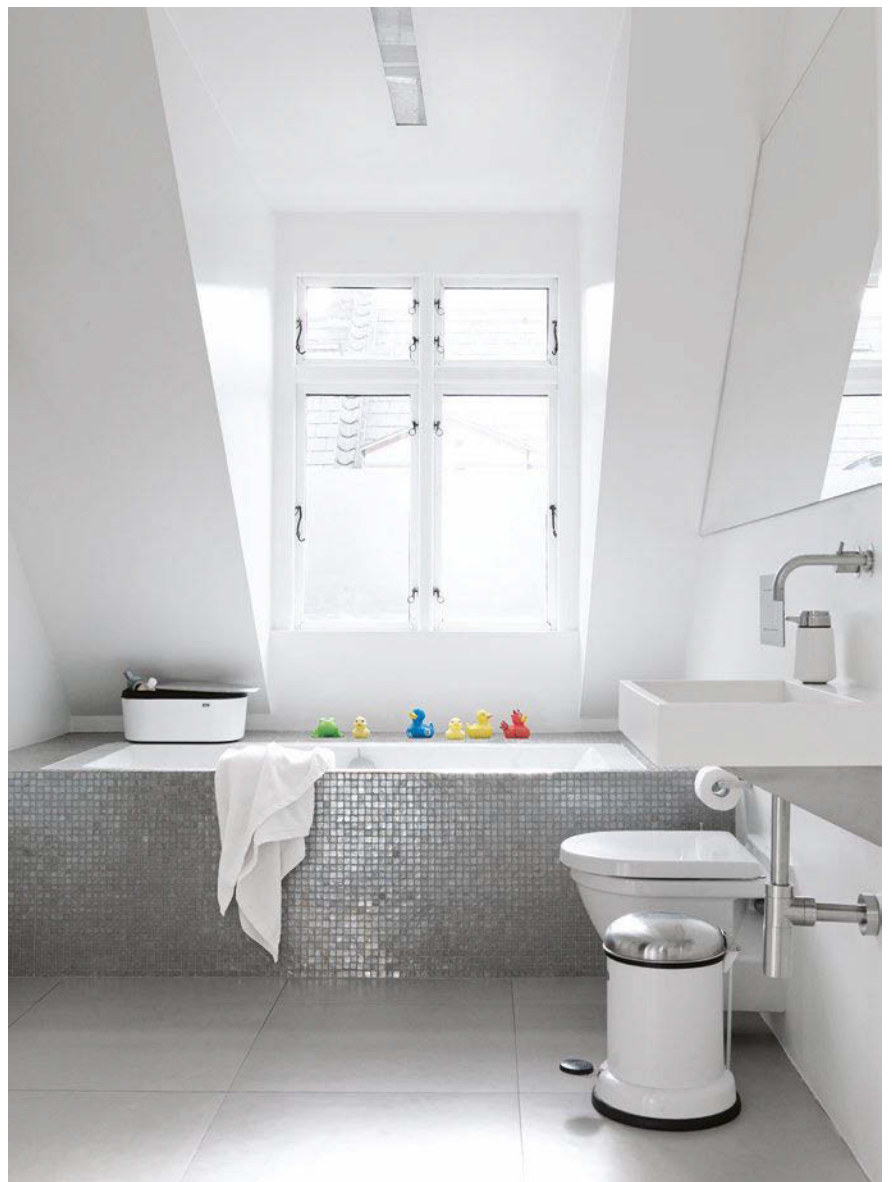
‘It’s important to us that the house retains its history, and equally important that the things we surround ourselves with have a history and are not simply catalogues of things from a particular store. Our interior is a mix of objects and heirlooms collected through many years. Each object carries its own story, including my grandmother’s bathroom cabinets or the clock in the kitchen that once hung in my grandfather’s factory,’ says Sofie.



‘The combination of a very social neighbourhood and highly functional house with many floors for our big family made it the perfect choice for us.’

The story is in fact the most important thing for both of them, whether it be the 30-year old Eames lounge chair made in the original factory (Herman Miller) or design pieces that they have spent a long time searching for. Uncompromised quality is essential in the interior and the couple would rather settle for fewer objects than compromise. Yet, they do like when things have a little edge and a touch of humour.

‘What I love most about my home is the balance between new and old and the graphic play between black and white, light and darkness; a modern interior in old frame that brings out the soul of the house,’ concludes Sofie. 🏠



Create the look

FROM THE COPENHAGEN HOME

Frank and Sofie have played with the contrast between new and old in their Copenhagen home.



The contemporary Jephson Task lamp from **Made**. £39. www.made.com



Mono Still vases by **Normann Copenhagen**.

Price on request. Phone Liberties, Westport 098 50273; Lost Weekend, Blackrock 01 2755818 and Ubode, Dublin 01 7755251. www.normann-copenhagen.com



Isamu Noguchi's coffee table with glass top from **Voga**. £418. www.voga.com/uk



The Eames lounge chair and ottoman are the most instantly recognisable designs of Charles and Ray Eames, this classic design is as popular as ever. Available from **CA Design**. €1,650. www.cadesign.ie



Yellow Fellow **Vipp** bin. Price on request. www.vipp.com

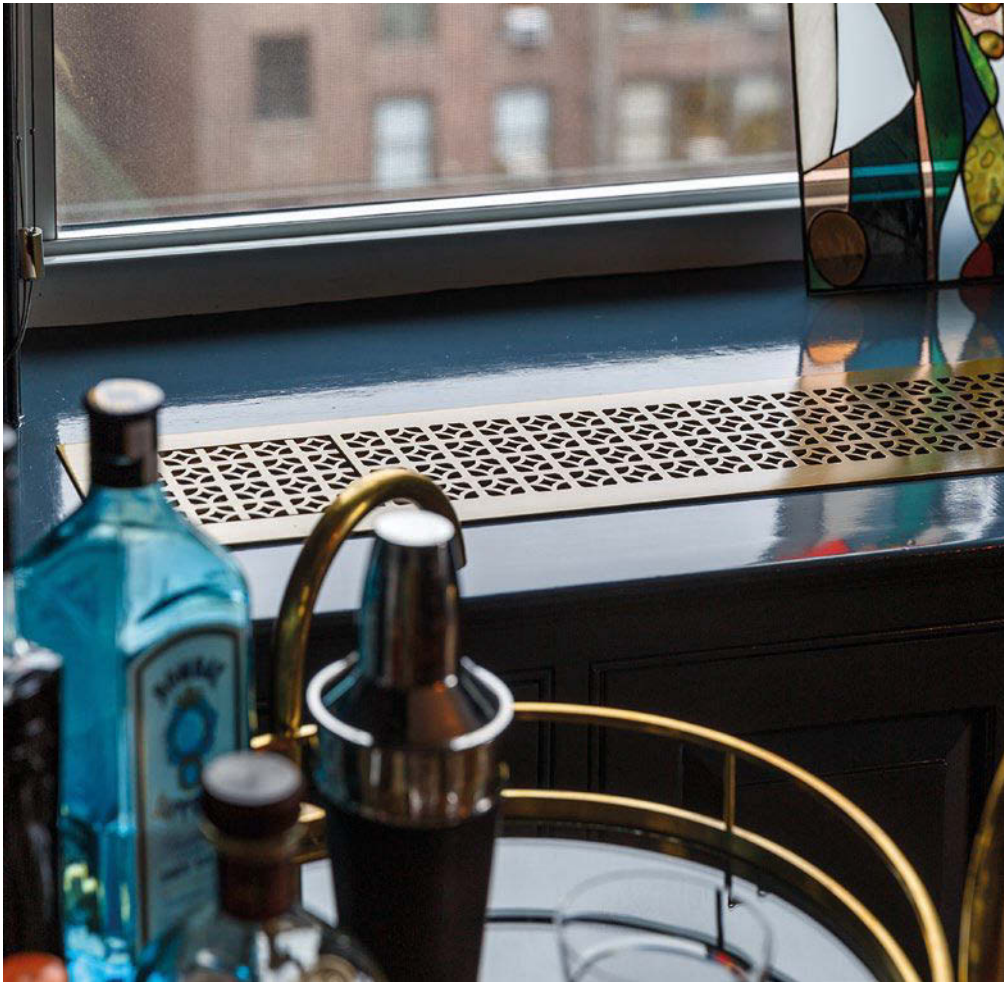
New York, New York

Irish interior designer and studio owner Claire McGovern has designed this beautiful two bedroom pied-à-terre in a classic pre-war Manhattan building on Park Avenue.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALEX STANILOFF.





‘My client is a business executive and also a native New Yorker,’ explains Claire. ‘She finally decided to move back to her childhood neighborhood and purchase this property. The design brief was straightforward; an interior remodel that would not only serve her well for the foreseeable future but act as a true sanctuary in her life. It was to reflect beautiful textures and earth-tones, minimal curvaceous furniture and of course, timeless details and finishes. She happened to show me a nautilus style shell that she had found near her beach house in the Hamptons and it was a remarkably unique colour display of delicate



blues and greys interspersed with hints of golden beige. Knowing how this found object also represented a time of serene relaxation and peace to her, I suggested we use this compelling palate as an inspiration for the interior scheme.'

'Our next step was to gain approval for our renovations from the housing cooperative that presided over her building,' adds Claire. 'Co-ops in New York are common and not only screen prospective tenants for their candidacy to purchase in a building but can be very reluctant to consider alterations that involve relocating any wall in a tenant's apartment.'





‘The floor plan included three bathrooms, two of which were very spatially challenged and despite our best efforts and several submittals, the client had to settle in the end with working within the confines of the existing space.’

‘The living room became the focus for a golden beige scheme which was best exemplified by the fireplace stone; an onyx called California Honey that was hand picked from a local supplier.

Polished brass details also prevail throughout the room. It was such an expansive space that two seating areas needed to be clearly defined. The sofa in front of the windows is a Flexform classic and a trio of Moroso Fjord ottomans by Patricia Urquiola were arranged in front of this and the fireplace. The finishing details to the interior were a custom lacquer white media unit with distinct brass details and a complex array of different cushions in textured fabrics.’

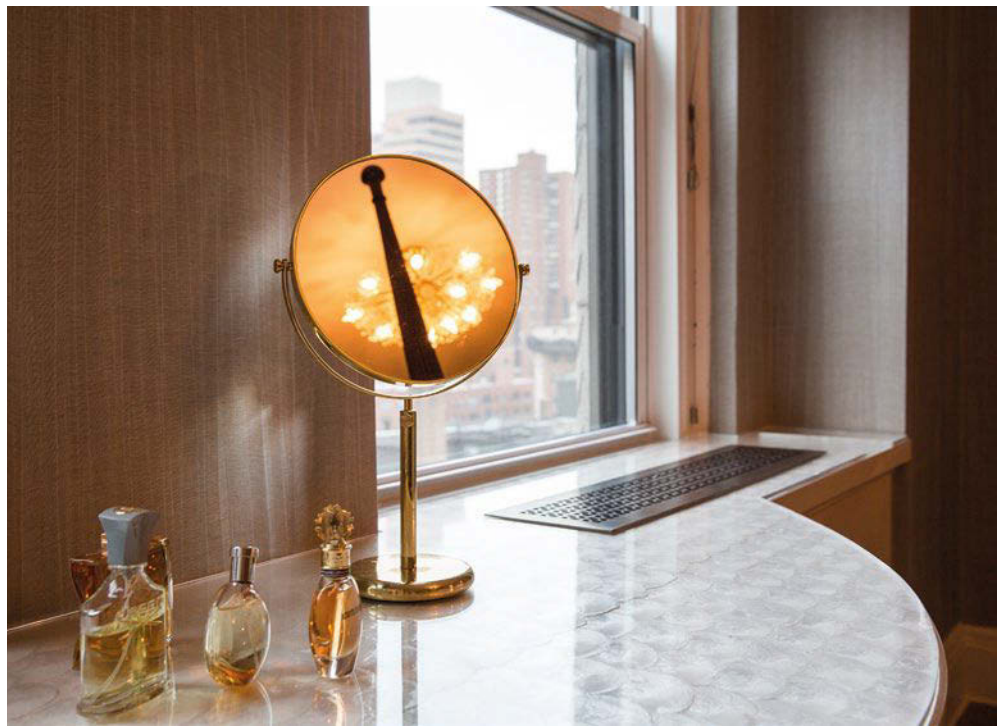


‘The main sofa and swivel circular side chair were custom fabrications by a talented Brooklyn designer Naula, a custom blue rug was provided by Warp & Weft which followed the contours of the angled walls, antique brass Ibex head table bases for which a glass top was commissioned, wall lamps by Lindsey Adelman, a 1960 designed floor lamp by Ignazio Gardella, a custom stained glass artwork commission by a close friend of the client Maya Travaglia and a custom artwork by Rhyme artist Ian Sheldon.

For the dining room it was agreed that this room would become the bold statement of the apartment. Claire continues, ‘Given its corner location and that it had more windows and light than any other room in the house, we opted for a deep lacquer blue auspiciously called Blue Note from Benjamin Moore. Antique brass was the dominant hardware finish in conjunction with this blue.

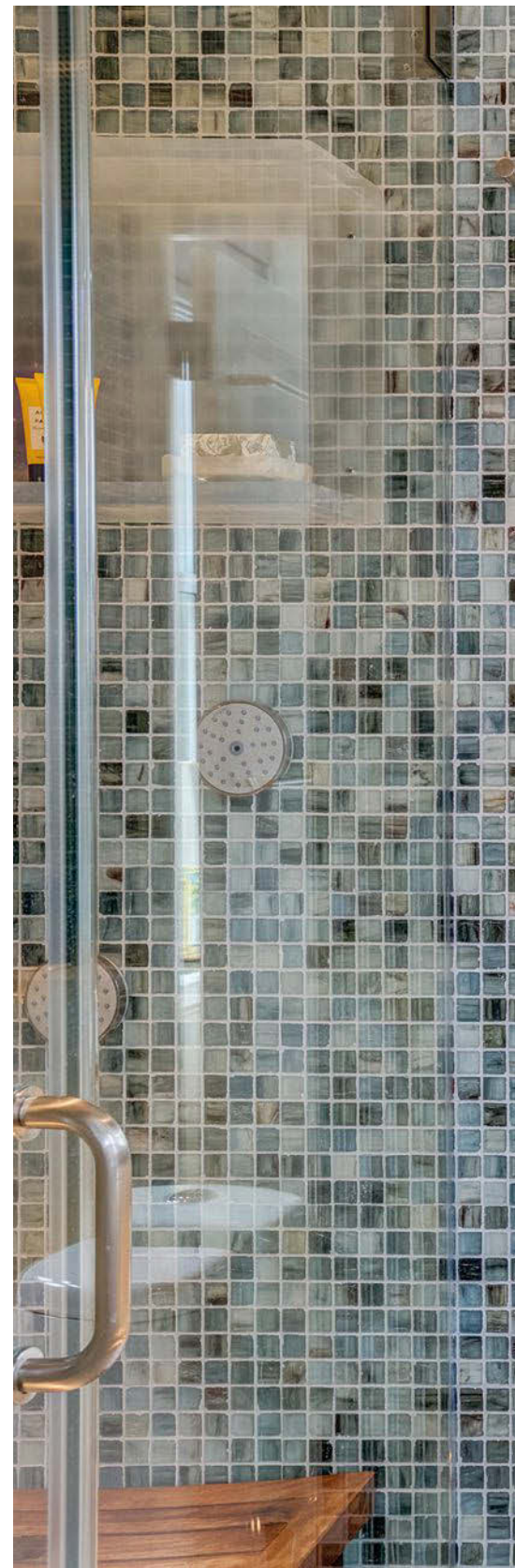
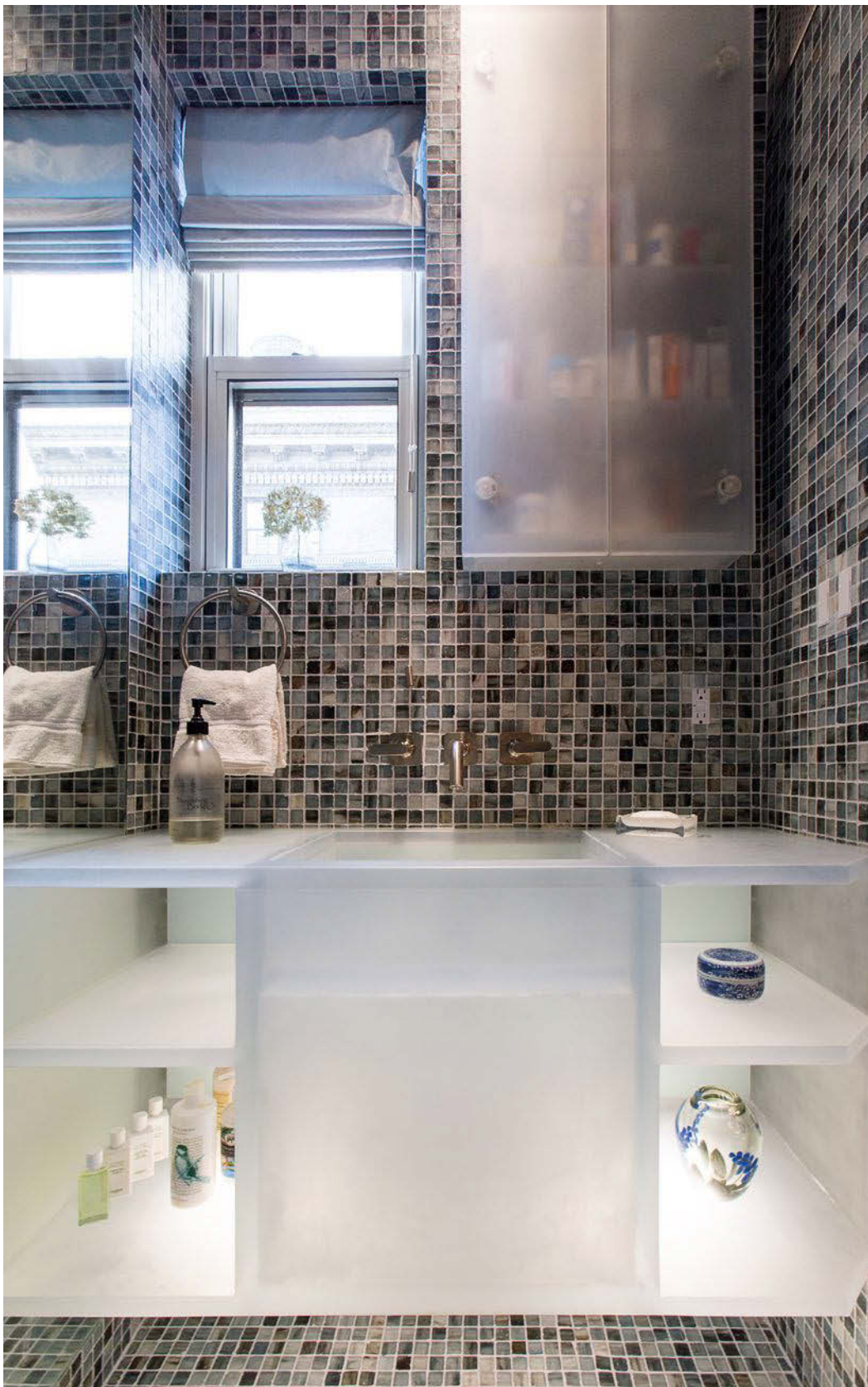
The dining table and chandelier are custom Rhyme designs. Sphera is the name of the chandelier series and the dining chairs are the client’s own reupholstered in a blue Maharam velvet. The bar cart is an elegant brass and glass Art Deco antique sourced from a local Manhattan dealer.’

A proportioned flow with a seamless layout of cabinetry, wet bar, countertop and breakfast nook was the objective for the kitchen space. Swing doors bridging the entry foyer to kitchen and kitchen to dining room aided this process. All new custom designed and fabricated off white cabinetry with brushed nickel knobs were installed throughout and by removing old cabinetry from over the counter, Claire was able to open up the space even more to allow for this balanced flow. The designated metal finish for this area was brushed nickel.



Making the very best
of a small space and
tricking the eye into
perceiving a larger room
is certainly not an unusual
challenge for apartments
in New York City.





In the master bedroom, the two nightstands flanking a classic colonial style four poster bed were custom made and wall mounted beside lamps with articulated arms fulfilled the need for a more antique feel to match the bed. A walk in closet and master bath emanating off this bedroom were particularly small spaces where we were obligated by the co-op board to work within the confines of existing walls. Making the very best of a small space and tricking the eye into perceiving a larger room is certainly not an unusual challenge for apartments in New York City. The contractor and his

glass vendor worked closely with Claire on applying mirror glass to every single surface throughout the closet with very successful results. Every surface became doubly reflective and this detail, coupled with a wall mounted eight drawer white lacquer credenza that appeared to float off the floor and a floor to ceiling illuminated all glass shelving unit for her extensive collection of shoes resulted in a space that appeared twice its actual size.

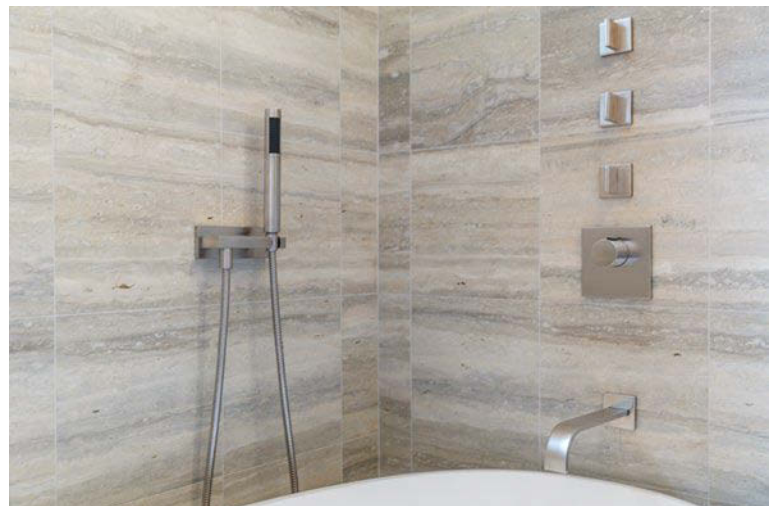
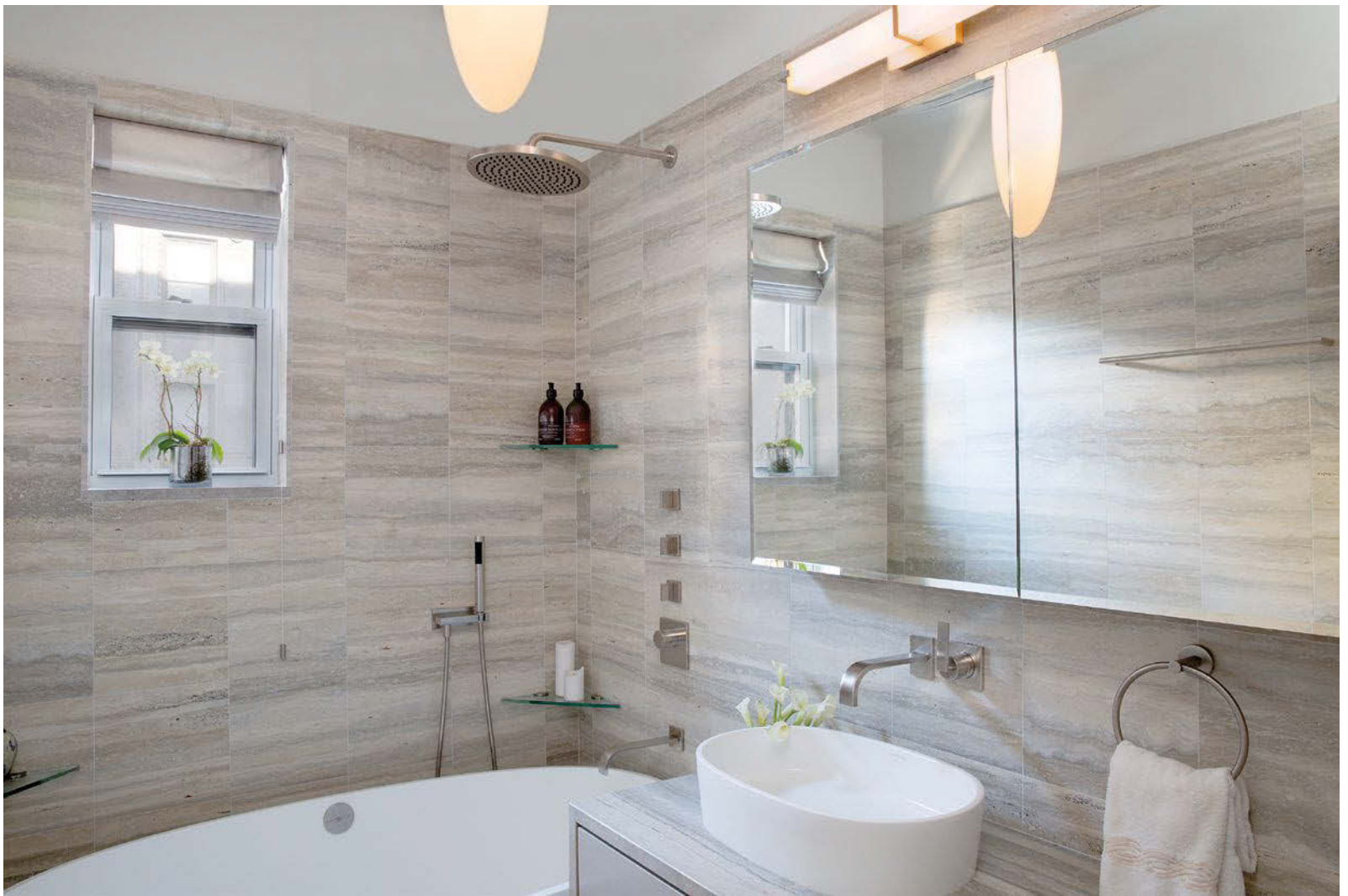
'In the master bathroom we settled on a one inch square mosaic tile in cerulean tones of blue to cover floors and walls throughout



this tiny space. The original shower was reduced in size and a surround of clear glass allowed the blues of tile to truly envelop and create a sense of expansiveness in a room that measured only 2.43 metres wide by 1.21 metres deep. A floor to ceiling wall mounted mirror from edge of shower stall to edge of window wall was framed by the mosaic tile and helped supplement the illusion of space. Beneath, a radiant heated floor was installed with recessed floor and ceiling lights illuminating one of the most enjoyable custom commissions; a vanity with recessed sink and medicine cabinet

fabricated entirely out of opaque acrylic. An Antonio Citterio designed faucet and handles for Hansgrohe was used over the sink with matching Hansgrohe shower hardware. A minimal trufig dimmer switch and outlet meticulously hand painted to match and disappear into the tile adorned the walls over the vanity.

In the guest bathroom Dornbracht fittings in platinum preside over a Victoria & Albert freestanding oval bathtub flanked a travertine framed, waterfall edged, custom white lacquer three drawer vanity with a matching oval Victoria & Albert vessel sink.



A custom mirrored medicine cabinet floats above the vanity and a very oblong vintage Italian frosted glass pendant acted as centrepiece to the room.

There was virtually no detail overlooked in this particular project and what has been created is a masterclass on excellent design from a talented Irish designer.

Claire McGovern grew up in Dublin. With an MA from UCD in Arts Administration, she moved to America in 1997. She now operates a multi-disciplinary design studio Rhyme offering interior design, art and design advisory services. Recent projects include art installations for Robert F. Kennedy's charity Waterkeeper at the World Financial Center, the interior remodel of restaurants, offices and residences in Manhattan and Brooklyn. Her own contemporary furniture collection including lighting, furniture and art is underway. 🏠

Create the look

FROM THE NEW YORK HOME

Irish interior designer Claire McGovern has skilfully designed and decorated this New York apartment.



Made's Leon swivel loveseat in
mink grey. £599. www.made.com

Soho ceiling pendant in burnished
copper with vintage bulb from

Atkin & Thyme. £89.
www.atkinandthyme.co.uk



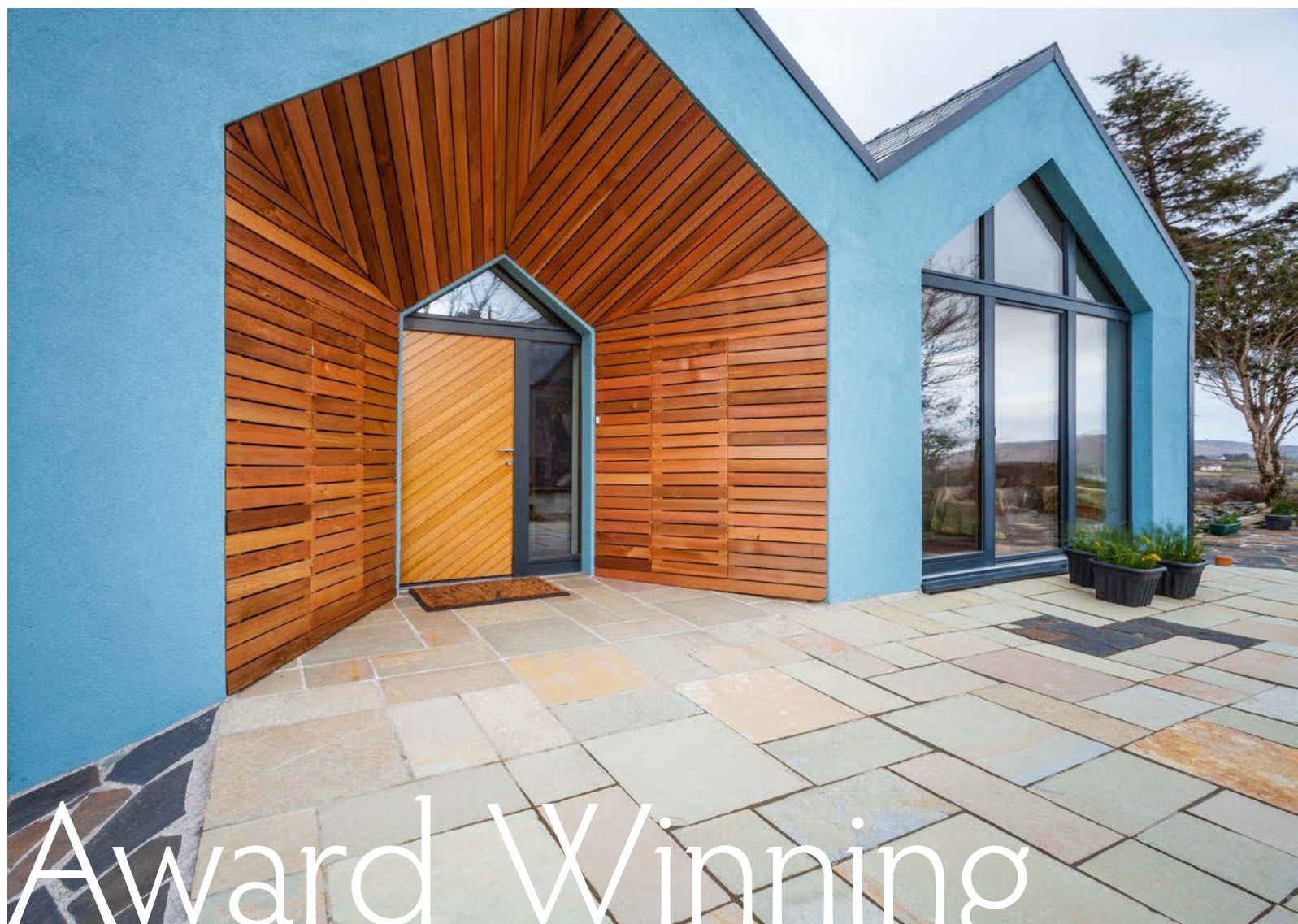
Padstow Factory coffee table from **One World Trading.**
£222.50. www.one.world.com



The Baroque Noir Cross black dining chair from
Sweetpea & Willow has an antique industrial.
£108. www.sweetpeaandwillow.co.uk

Festive hague blue from **Farrow
& Ball.** Price on request. For
your local irish stockists visit
www.farrow-ball.com





Award Winning Abode

As the deadline for applications for this year's RTÉ One's Home of the Year looms, here is a closer look at last year's winning design.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY: MARTIN JANOWSKI @ MAAN MEDIA
EDITORIAL BY: SUZANNE KEANE & RTE TEN WWW.RTE.IE/TEN

An eco-friendly, split-level house in Castletownbere, West Cork, which combines comfort, clever design and functionality, won RTÉ One's Home of the Year.

Owned by retired couple Ita Molloy and Andrew Harvey, the house was designed and built by Ita's architect son, Donn Ponnighaus.

Throughout the popular seven week series, viewers were welcomed across the threshold of 21 houses as expert judges Declan O'Donnell, Hugh Wallace and Helen James debated the merits of flatpack furniture, baths in bedrooms and pink sitting rooms. Seven homes were shortlisted for the Carton House-based finale.

Of the winning house, award-winning architect Declan said: 'This house really stayed with me. You don't often see something so beautiful which is so functional. This home is kind to the environment and sacrifices nothing in achieving that. It's a beacon for clever and creative design.'



Interior designer Hugh said: 'It's a tour de force.

A faultless home – wonderful and worthy.'

'It's an incredible piece of art. And there's something so peaceful about it,' said textiles and home-wares designer Helen.

The interior of the house is warm and cosy, surrounded by incredible views of the mountains and sea of West Cork via large picture windows. A library with a secret door particularly delighted the judges.

Speaking about her family's win, Ita said: 'There are a lot of special things when you walk around the house that make you smile. But I think saving energy has been one of the main issues for us and for my son. When you put the effort in over several years, working really hard to get it right, it's just amazing to get the validation that we did today and to be crowned Home of the Year.'

Andrew added: 'We're really pleased that we can share it and that people can see that it's possible to have a beautiful house that is ecologically friendly also.'





ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR HOME?

RTÉ One's Home of the Year is now looking for homes of all shapes, sizes and budgets for a brand new series.

Whether your home is a self-built passion project, an unusual conversion, a classic restoration, a hidden country hideaway, a boutique town house, or a piece of modern Irish architecture, it could be Ireland's next Home of the Year!

The panel of esteemed judges will scour the country looking for homes filled with passion, personality and clever design. Big or small, old or new, retro, classic or modern, Home of the Year wants to hear from you.

If you think your home has what it takes then phone +353 1 2080855 or email homes@shinawil.com for more information.

The closing date for entries is Monday 13th July 2015.





Garden Special

29 pages of inspirational gardens and garden design throughout the UK and Ireland. Plus expert tips and advice on caring for your garden.

Garden essentials from **Dobbies**.
Prices on request. www.dobbies.com



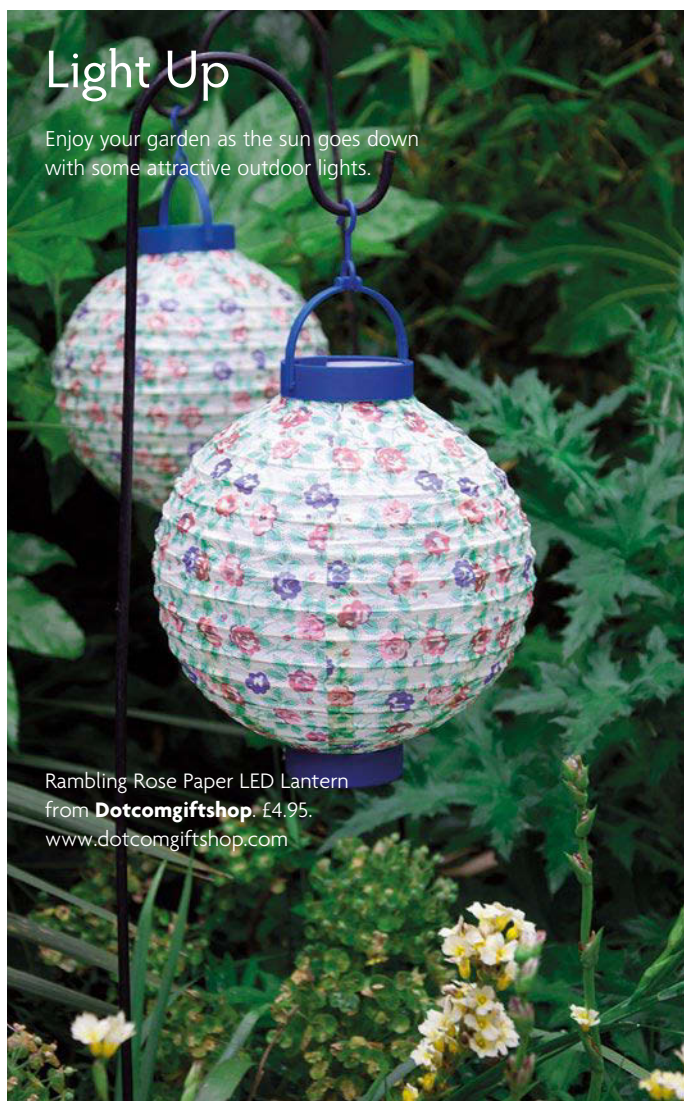
Esschert's Garden old
rectory bench and English
rose arch. Prices on request.
www.esschertdesign.com

Ornamental Outdoors

Decoration doesn't just finish at the back door.
You can be as creative with your outdoors as your indoors. Here are a few ideas...

Light Up

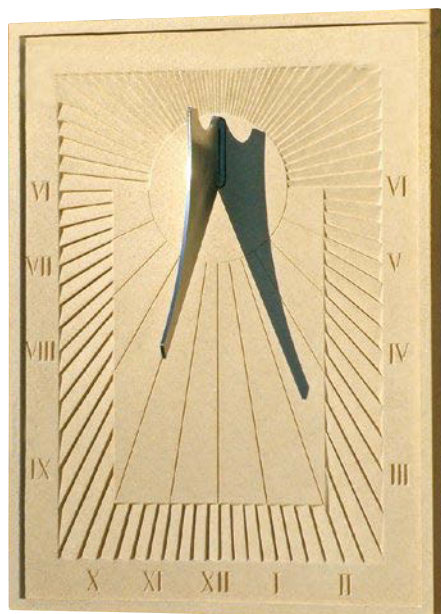
Enjoy your garden as the sun goes down with some attractive outdoor lights.



Rambling Rose Paper LED Lantern from **Dotcomgiftshop**. £4.95.
www.dotcomgiftshop.com

Keeping Time

Decorative sundials positioned on walls or standing in a suitable corner of the garden will add interest.



Arcadian wall sundial designed for south-facing walls from **Haddonstone**. £135.
www.haddonstone.com

Softly Does It!

Soft furnishings such as rugs and cushions are not just for your indoor living spaces, but can add personality to your outdoor spaces too!



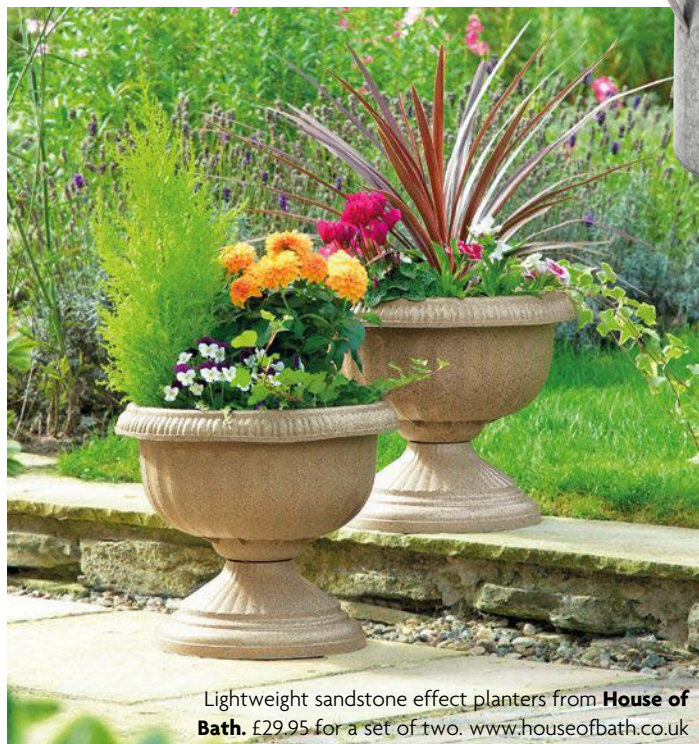
Outdoor cushions from **Neptune**.
Prices range from £39/€51 to £42/€55.
www.neptune.com

Suitable for indoors and outdoors is the Clarence rug from **Cuckooland**. £475.
www.cuckooland.com



Stylish Planters

Garden pots and planters come in so many different shapes, sizes, colours and finishes that there is no excuse not to continue your desired traditional or more contemporary design preference outdoors.



Lightweight sandstone effect planters from **House of Bath**. £29.95 for a set of two. www.houseofbath.co.uk



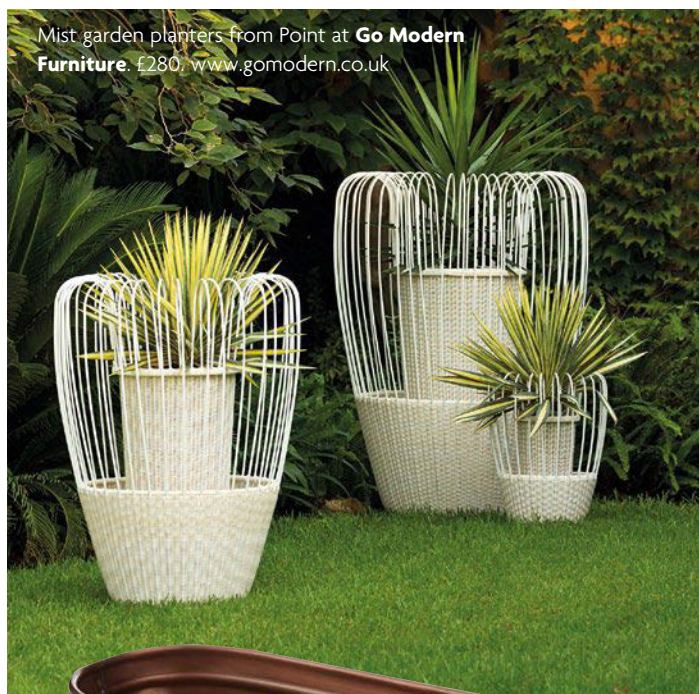
Garden Trading set of three planters from **Amara**. £50. www.amara.com

Garden Art

From the traditional garden gnome to unique antique and contemporary sculptures, why not add artful additions to your outdoors.

RIGHT: Frankie the frog metal garden ornament by La Hacienda at **White Stores**. £15.29. www.whitestores.co.uk

BELOW: Garden flames sculpture from **In-Spaces**. £210. www.in-spaces.com



Mist garden planters from Point at **Go Modern Furniture**. £280. www.gomodern.co.uk



Laura Ashley copper effect planter. £15. www.laurashley.com



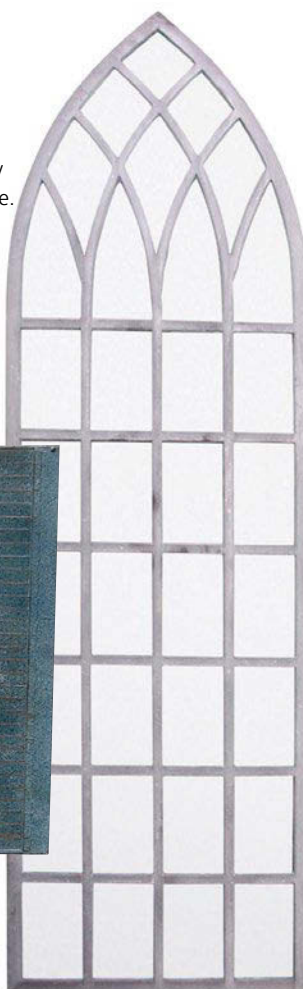
Mirror Mirror

Add intrigue to your outdoors with a garden mirror. Used correctly in smaller gardens they can also create the illusion of a larger space.

Metal garden shutter mirror from **The Chandelier & Mirror Company Ltd.** £155.
www.chandeliersandmirrors.co.uk



Glass church mirror from **Achica.** £79. www.achica.com



Rectangular tall garden mirror in grey wash steel from **Cuckooland.** £54.95. www.cuckooland.com

Water Features

Visually enhance your garden with traditional and contemporary water features, which will also add relaxing sounds to this area of your home.

Crucible Fountain from the Arcadian range by **Haddonstone.** £399. www.haddonstone.com



Wall fountain from **The Chelsea Gardener.** £150.
www.chelseagardener.com



Lilly Rain Chain from **In-spaces.** £160.
www.in-spaces.com



Colourful Cover-ups

Brighten up your garden and stay cool in the shade with a colourful gazebo or parasol such as these examples shown here...



Gulliver parasol from **KSL Living**.
£1,011.53/€1,410.
www.ksl-living.fr



Pink pop-up gazebo from **Littlewoods Ireland**. €94. www.littlewoodsireland.ie



Bloom garden parasol from **Go Modern Furniture**. £1,830. www.gomodern.co.uk





Child's Play

If you have children who also need to share the garden space, make sure you invest in a home gym to sit neatly in a suitable area of the garden.

Little Tikes Hamburg Swing and Slide Gym from **Toys r Us**. £249.99



Natural white double cocoon from **Houseology**. £312. www.houseology.com



Balinese cocoon swivel chair from **Dunelm Mill**. £199.99. www.dunelm-mill.com

Chill Out

When the weather allows there's nothing nicer than relaxing in your garden. There are some quirky options available if you want to add interest with your garden seating.



Hanging chair from **Boqa**. Price on request. www.boqa.fr

GARDEN SECRETS:

Glenarm Gardens

Head gardener, James Wharry tells us more about the beautifully manicured gardens at Glenarm Castle, County Antrim.

GARDENER PROFILE:



James is from the lovely area of Broughshane. Having a life-long connection with the land, he worked in the milk industry for 25 years then made a career change 12 years ago taking up gardening. Growing plants was not new to him but at Glenarm you are responsible for a large collection. James says the key is: to have an interest in plants, be willing to learn and to maintain a high standard of work.



GARDENING BRIEF:

The historic walled garden has features from the Victorian era such as the vinery and fig wall, but the visitor is treated to a modern design incorporating a series of rooms containing fruit orchards with apples, pears, medlar, cherries and quince etc. The garden may be viewed from the top of the modern mount showing the crinkle-crankle central beech hedge walk leading to a herb garden in the yew circle which dates from the 1830s. There are glorious herbaceous borders, showy hardy annuals, shrub roses, flamboyant Iris and hydrangea. There are tulips in spring and an abundance of fruit in the autumn. Lord and Lady Dunluce have created a modern walled garden with the help of Catherine Fitzgerald and Nigel Marshall.

GARDEN MAINTENANCE:

The visitor is taken by the high standard of maintenance. Neat lawns, well trimmed hedges and the weed-free borders a feature. The key to success is doing the seasonal jobs at the right time: getting the pruning of the fruit trees and clearing the herbaceous borders in the autumn, top dressing all beds with well rotted manure and compost on fine days during winter/spring and never pass a weed without removing it. We use our own compost and farm manure. All the grass edging is done with hand shears and weeding of beds by hand and hoe. We plant thousands of tulips at the end of November. I walk the garden, see what needs doing and plan the work according to the season and weather.

**MICHAEL'S FAVOURITE:**

I love the garden in all the seasons but I especially love the medlar and apple orchards. The standard medlars have quirky twisted stems supported by decorative black metal poles. They are under planted with Campanula which is a sea of blue in the summer and the lawns are neat. In contrast the apple orchard has long grass with naturalised tulips, wild flowers and the attractive spikes of the white and blue flowers of Camassia.



GARDEN SECRETS:

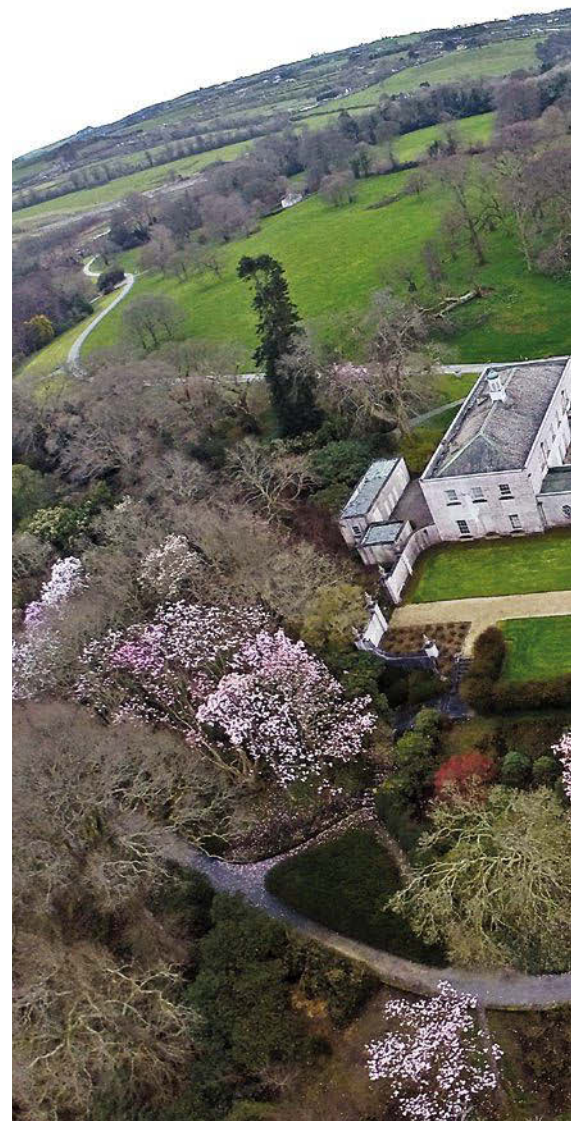
Mount Congreve

Michael White Garden Curator at Mount Congreve Estate in Waterford knows these beautiful surroundings better than anyone.

GARDENER PROFILE:



It was serendipitous that I came to gardening having very little interest as a boy despite my mum's encouragement. I first came to Mount Congreve as a part-time summer worker. From my very first meetings with Mr Ambrose Congreve and Mr Herman Dool they encouraged me to take an interest in the vast collection of plants in the garden. So, several weeks later I found myself crawling on my stomach looking for a plant label to identify a tree I liked and realised I had become infected with the gardening bug. Soon after I attended Kildalton Horticultural College, returning to Mount Congreve where I remain to this day.



GARDENING BRIEF:

I feel it is important that we stay faithful to the guiding principles taught to us by Mr Ambrose Congreve when he was creating the garden. The key to this philosophy is that when planting one should plant species and cultivars in large groups rather than dot them around the garden. The result of this planting can be seen to spectacular effect in the woodland garden. No repetition of a planting scheme was ever allowed. New plant introductions and hybrids were sought from all around the world to add to the collection. A breeding program was undertaken to produce Rhododendrons that would flower into late summer, a program we continue today.



GARDEN MAINTENANCE:

Many times Mr Congreve would stress to me in the early days that gardening maintenance should be approached in a systematic way. By that he meant rather than jump from one task to another in a random way, a system of garden management should be in place where one task follows another in an ordered way. With this in mind, in winter we address any planting changes we feel need to be made in the garden. Soil preparation, removal of dead or dying material, layering any rare plants that we feel we need to increase numbers, path maintenance and mulch our Rhododendrons on a need basis. Maintaining and preserving the collection by selective thinning and pruning. This is done over three year phases so as not to negatively effect the aesthetic of the garden. We feel that as well as a place of enjoyment the gardens should also be a place of learning.

MICHAEL'S FAVOURITE:

There are so many choices, so I trust I will be forgiven for choosing three places! High above the River Suir in 1969 hundreds of Magnolia Campbellii seedlings were planted and every March/April we are fortunate to see the spectacular fruition of this visionary planting. Planted on the lower slopes of the garden, a path above affords us the opportunity to look straight into these stunning, large flowers. It is a breathtaking sight that I eagerly look forward to every year. Secondly, who can resist a bluebell wood when in flower as the soft green emerging leaves of beech trees flicker and dance in the spring sunlight. We have such a walk here and it's a special place. Thirdly, a semi-circular seat that is situated at the start of a double peony border that are backed by delphiniums and climbing roses in the walled garden is over fifty meters long - and a sight to behold!





© RHS CREDIT: BETHANY CLARKE WWW.MATTHEWGILLOID.CO.UK

Show Time

The RHS Chelsea Flower Show is a great place to find inspiration for your garden. Here are some of the beautiful plants and a few of the stunning gardens that were on display at this year's event.

Nowhere makes gardening more fashionable than the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. A catwalk of colour and creativity, the brightest new ideas, the latest trends and the pinnacle of garden design make this show the one that everyone wants to see.



© RHS CREDIT: ANDY PARADISE

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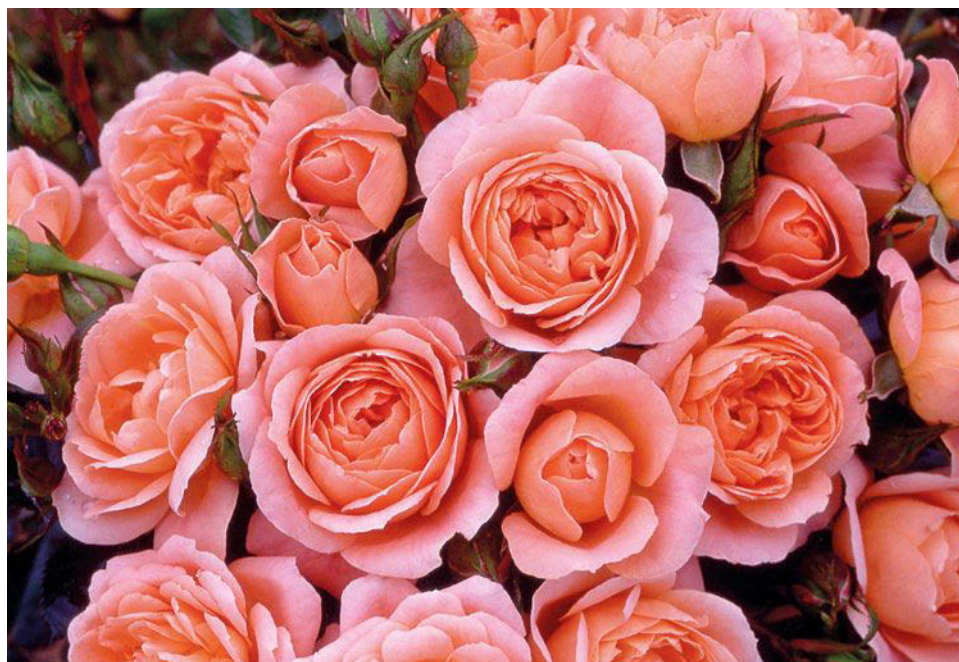
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© RHS CREDIT: HANNAH MCKAY

LEFT: One of the 2015 Artisan Gardens: Breast Cancer Haven Garden. Designed by Sarah Eberle supported by Tom Hare. Sponsored by Nelsons.

ABOVE: Joanna Lumley launches the M&S Blooms of the British Isles exhibit.

ABOVE RIGHT: Launched at this year's show was a brand new variety of rose in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support in partnership with Homebase and Harkness Roses. The 'I Am Macmillan' rose will be available to buy online from September 2015 and in Homebase stores from April 2016. £1 from every sale will be donated towards funding hours of care from Macmillan nurses, to support people affected by cancer, and their families and loved ones too.

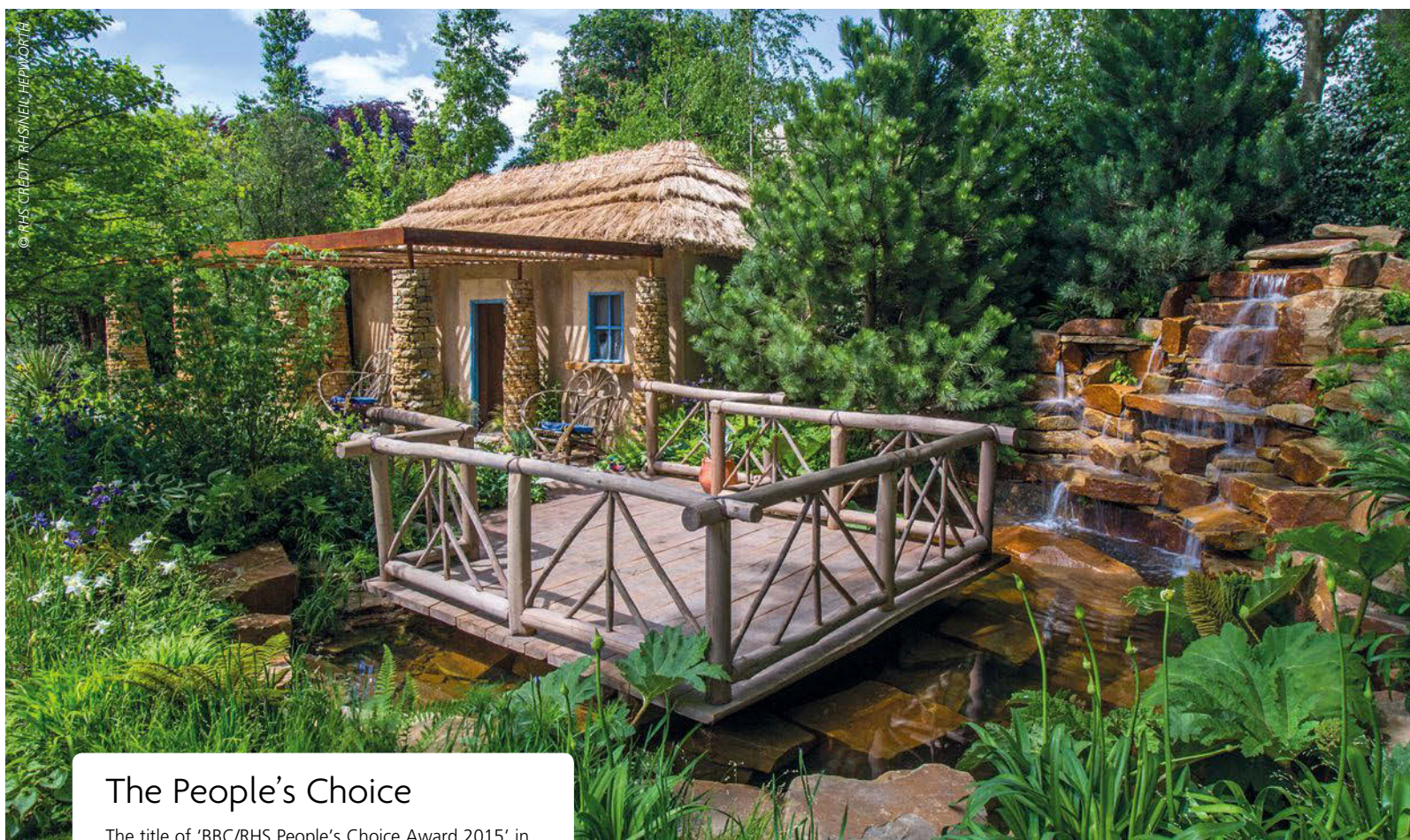
DID YOU KNOW?

- The Show has been held on the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea since 1913.
- The biggest RHS Chelsea Show Garden (so far) was the Eden Project Garden in 2010 which covered 590 square metres.
- The tallest ever exhibit at RHS Chelsea was 'The Westland Magical Garden' in 2012. It was designed by Diarmuid Gavin and featured an 80ft high pyramid.

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The People's Choice

The title of 'BBC/RHS People's Choice Award 2015' in the Show Gardens category was awarded to 'Sentebale – Hope in Vulnerability'. This was the second consecutive year that garden designer Matthew Keightley won this special award. This year, Keightley designed the garden for Sentebale, the charity founded by Prince Harry, which helps impoverished children in Lesotho, Southern Africa.

DID YOU KNOW?

- All the Show Gardens are built from scratch in just 19 days and dismantled in only five days.
- A Show Garden at RHS Chelsea can range in size from 10mx10m to 10mx22m.



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© RHS CREDIT: ANDY PARADISE

Best Show Garden

The Laurent-Perrier Chatsworth Garden

This year Laurent-Perrier and Chatsworth came together to create a breathtaking show garden, marking Chatsworth's Chelsea debut. With a shared heritage in gardens, and family dwellings in beautiful grounds, this garden was an awe-inspiring experience for visitors.



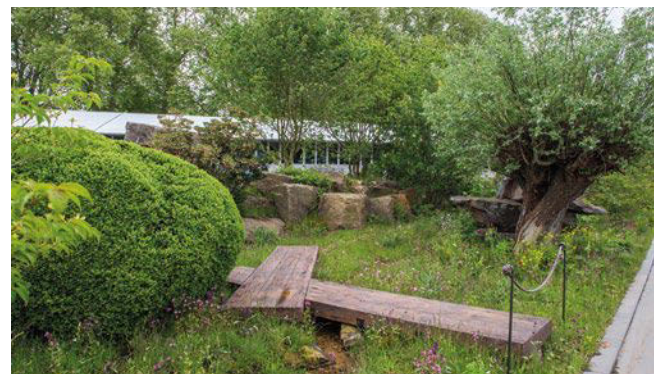
© RHS CREDIT: MARTIN MULCHINOCK



Viewed from all sides, this garden creates a beautiful representation of a small – less trodden – part of the 105 acre Chatsworth Garden. In line with designer Dan Pearson's passion for naturalism and the wilder side of gardening, the exhibit was inspired by Chatsworth's ornamental Trout Stream and Paxton's rockery. Planting reflects the lightness, freshness and delicacy of the 200-year-old family-owned Champagne House.



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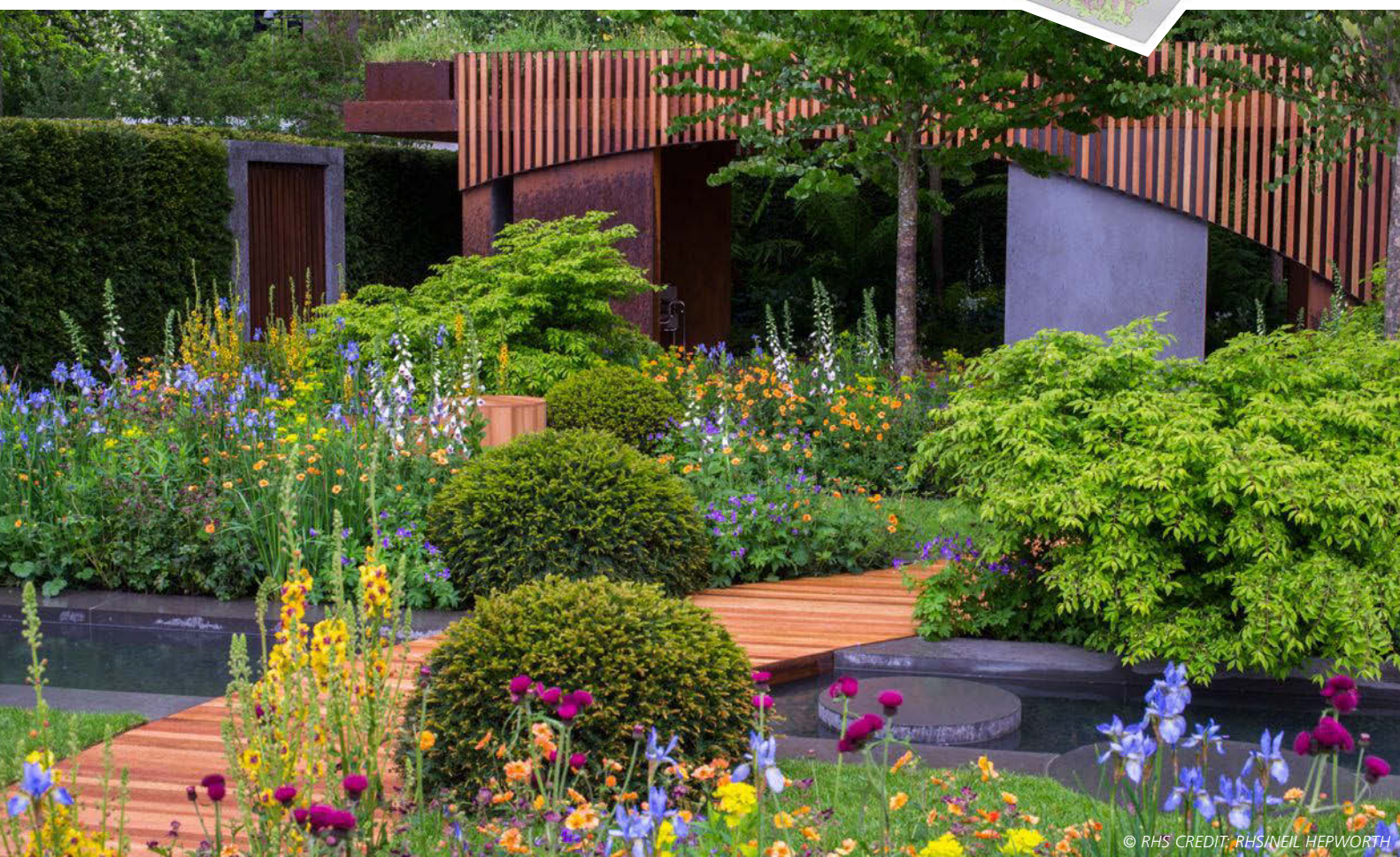


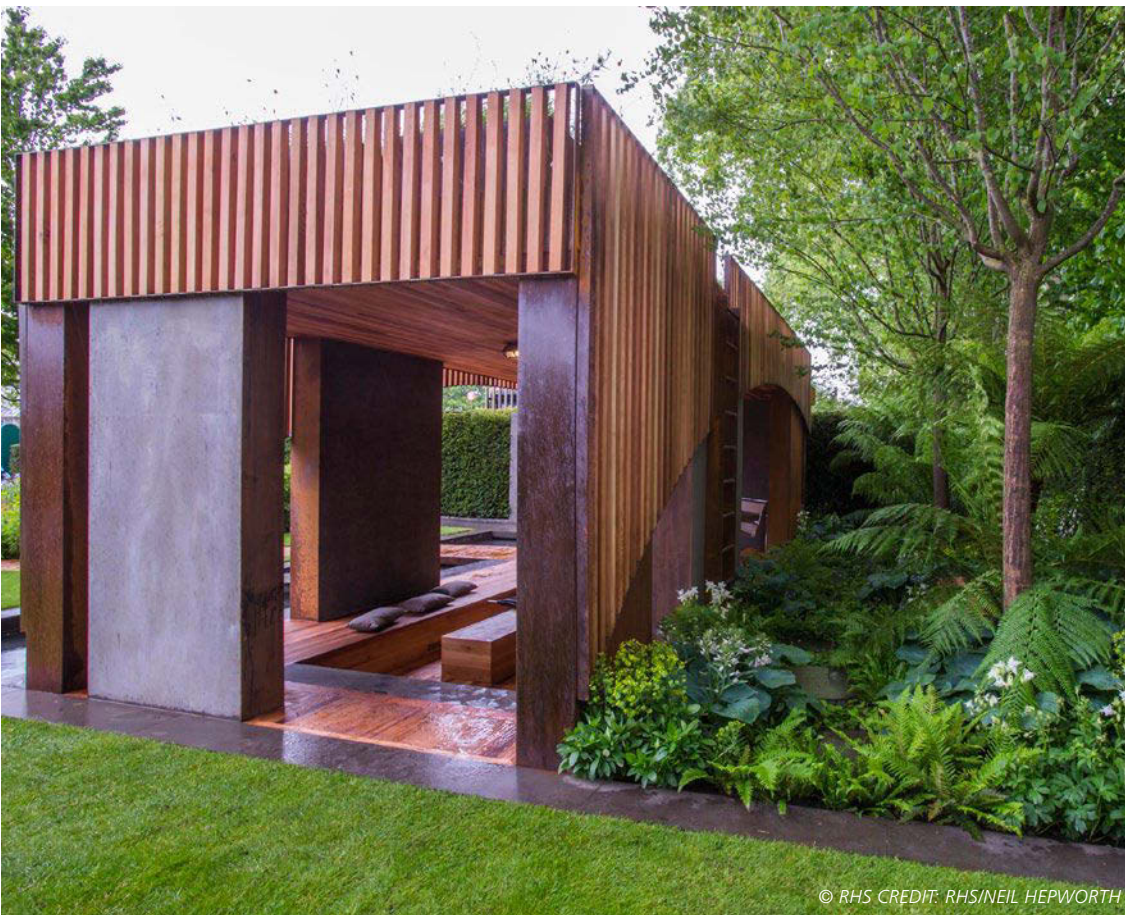
IMAGES © RHS CREDIT: RHIS/NEIL HEPWORTH

An Urban Retreat

Homebase launched a ground-breaking Garden Academy Scheme in September 2013 to help raise the profile of a career in gardening and to inspire young people to get into gardening. A number of these young apprentices worked alongside Adam Frost on The Homebase Urban Retreat Garden for the 2015 RHS Chelsea Garden Show.

Adam Frost returned to RHS Chelsea following a gold medal win for Homebase with his design for 'Time to Reflect' in 2014. Taking inspiration from the work of modernist architect Marcel Breuer, the garden also represents the balance of nature and the manmade environment. As a place for a small inner-city community to come together the garden includes a lawn, water features and an arbour for people to enjoy the night sky. The three main materials are Portland cement concrete, corten steel and cedar, which reflect the imagined urban landscape. The planting is mainly ornamental and wildlife friendly.





© RHS CREDIT: RHS/NEIL HEPWORTH



PLANTING/COLOUR SCHEME

The garden includes a rich and earthy colour palette, moving from deep crimson to burnt orange to reflect the orange-brown patina of corten steel, whilst the lush green foliage of the ferns and hedging stands out against the imposing concrete frame. There is an accent of pale blue throughout the scheme.

The planting palette has been designed with wildlife in mind using simple plants that allow insects to flourish including irises, geraniums, Deschampsia and Digitalis, which sit alongside Taxus domes that provide nesting space for insects and birds and Cercidiphyllum japonicum (katsura) trees which act as a source of food for the resident bees. Grasses and wildflowers bring a softness to the urban setting while two impressive tree ferns positioned behind the corten steel and cedar-clad building add a structural element to the palette.



Adam Frost



© RHS CREDIT: RHS/NEIL HEPWORTH



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Fundraising

The RHS Chelsea Flower Show is one of the ways that the RHS funds its charitable activities, which range from transforming communities to helping children to benefit from growing plants and delivering scientific research that helps thousands of gardeners across the UK every day.



© RHS CREDIT: ANNA MCCARTHY



© RHS CREDIT: BETHANY CLARKE



© RHS CREDIT: ANDY PARADISE



© RHS CREDIT: RICHARD CAYEUX

A new plant for 2015 launched at RHS Chelsea.

Living On

The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) encourages exhibitors to ensure their RHS Chelsea Flower Show gardens 'live on' after the show. The gardens may be relocated in their entirety, or broken down and used for a number of projects. In previous years gardens have been donated to organisations such as Living Streets, a charity campaigning to improve streetscapes across Britain, or relocated to schools etc.

Show Garden

Silver-Gilt Award

The Royal Bank of Canada Garden



For the fifth year in a row, Royal Bank of Canada returned to RHS Chelsea Flower Show with a contemporary garden from Matthew Wilson which explores living sustainably through good design and understanding the importance of conserving fresh water in growing plants for pleasure and as food.

The garden is divided into three main parts; a zero irrigation 'dry garden', central water harvesting/storage zone, and edible garden, with a raised seating and dining platform. The garden is designed to be easy to live with, one that can be a little ragged around the edges without detracting from its beauty, and a garden that provides edible plants alongside ornamental plants in a fun, easy to manage way.

Based around a series of curved beds and features, the garden represents the ebb and flow of water, creating a sheltered sunlit space. Drought tolerant and sun loving trees, shrubs and flowers form the planting for the garden which also has a small pond.



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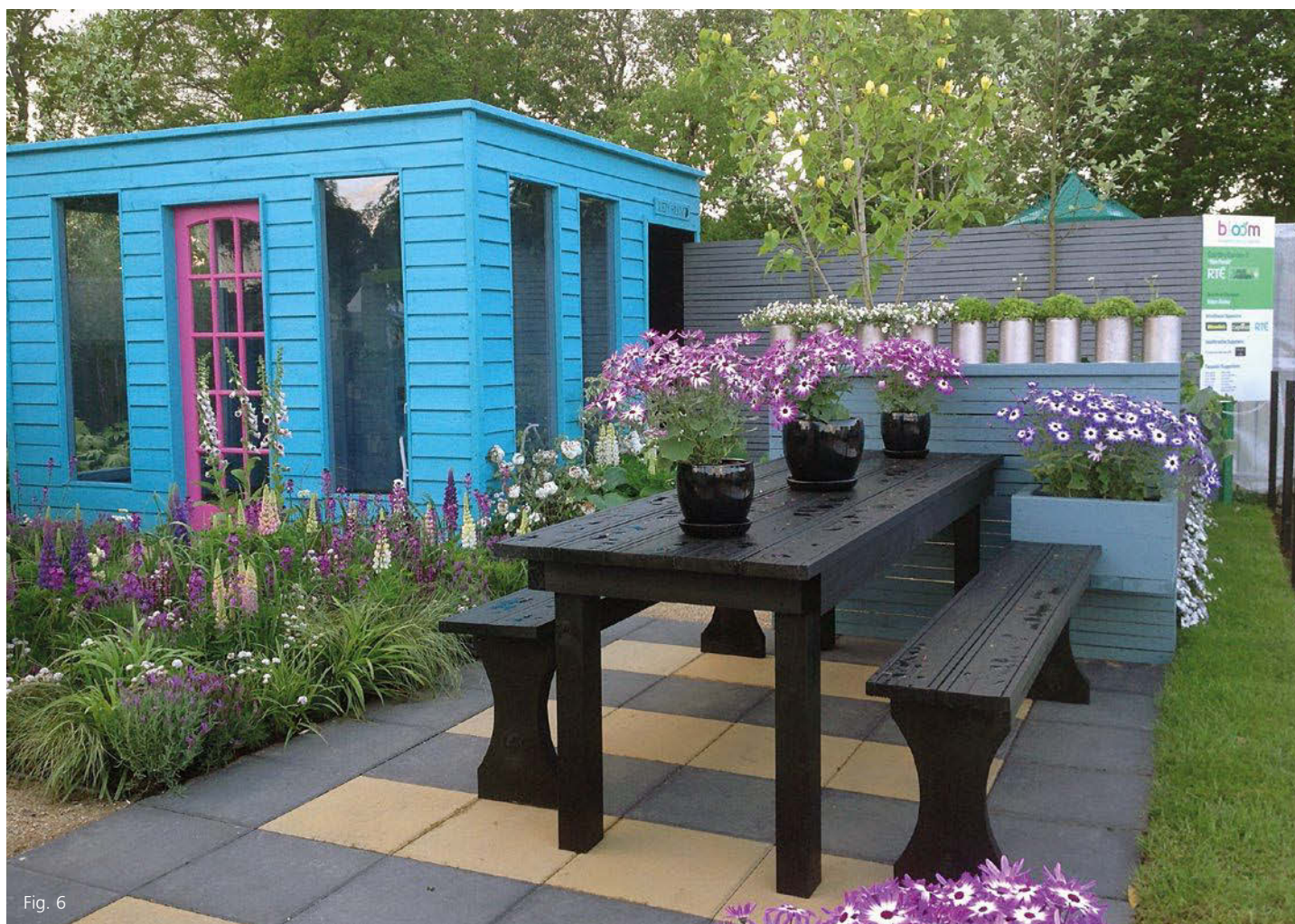


Fig. 6

Bloomin' Great!

It's safe to say that this year's Bloom in the Park was of the highest standard. While the weather was more like winter than the summer we should be having in June, the crowds turned out in their thousands (over 90,000 to be exact).



BY DEIRDRE PRINCE

The greatest number of gold medals were awarded than ever before and you can clearly see why. I have selected some of the highlights of the show, although they were all worthy of mention, there is only so much space in the magazine.

Niall Maxwell designed the Pieta House garden, called 'Darkness into Light'. The design of this garden centred on a still, formal pond, which reflected an evocative mural. Maxwell has carefully selected the planting and has created a calm palette of serene greens and mellow yellows, with a mix of structural shrubs such as *Buxus sempervirans* (Box) and bright herbaceous perennials such as *Iris* 'Tulip Festival' and *Primula veris* (Cowslip) (Fig.1)

Jane McCorkell's garden entitled 'Our Origin is Green' once again was a showstopper. Based on the Celtic knot of two dogs from the 'Book of Durrow', the tranquil pool with its pristine paving stepping stone details contrasts with the relaxed, informal mix of planting, consisting of mixed

Aquilegia (Granny's bonnets), *Lychnis* 'White Robin' and *Digitalis* (Foxglove) (Fig.2)

Lorely Forrester designed 'Yeats's Secret Garden in Sligo'. This show garden is inspired on the writings of Yeats, his imagined retreat in the wilds of Sligo. Nothing is tamed or tidy in this secret hideaway. Forrester captures this ruggedness with *Myosotis scorpiodes* (Forget-me-nots), *Saxifrage* and *Cow parsley*. (Fig.3)

Ingrid Swan has designed the Santa Rita Wines garden, entitled 'The Moment is Yours'. Swan has created a fantastic entertaining space for this year's Bloom show gardens, with lots of nooks for dining out, creating moments of pleasure with friends and family. The planting is a gentle mix of grasses, perennials and shrubs, with *Buxus sempervirans* (Box), *Alchemilla* (Lady's mantle), *Lupinus* (Lupins) and ornamental grasses. All of this sumptuous planting is surrounded by walls painted with a shock of pink. (Fig.4)



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Declan McKenna created Sunwood's 'Contemporary Expression' Garden. It is his interpretation of what inspired him to become a designer and McKenna has managed to produce what can only be described as a harmonious palette of purples, pinks and deep reds, knitted together with the green foliage mix of ferns and Buxus (Box). The purple painted rendered walls which intertwine throughout the space, act as a string that links the pearls of his planting scheme. (Fig.5)

Brian Burke, the 2015 Supergarden winner designed the 'Non Forsit' Supergarden. Burke's first foray into the show garden scene was an outstanding success, having won over the judges in the Supergarden TV Series, he won over the hearts of the bloom visitors with his Non Forsit garden (Latin for No Problem). The space was created to allow for easy and equal access and enjoyment for the whole family, whatever the ability, size or age and it fully met the client's brief, all the while, producing a beautiful garden. The vibrant colours of the flowers, such as Lupinus (Lupins), Lavandula stoechas (French lavender) and Osteospermum (African Daisy) are mimicked in the brightly painted playhouse. (Fig.6)

Fiann Ó'Nualláin created a fantastic space called the 'Beauty Full' garden. Ó'Nualláin's thinking behind this garden is that it's a space to

rejuvenate in, with all the botanical beauty in his garden plants. Based on his book, 'Beauty from the Garden', the plants are a grow it yourself beauty kit, Hamamelis virginiana (Witch hazel) as a skin tonic and Jasminum oil as a hair tamer. (Fig.7)

Liat Schurmann's bloom garden, 'Pan Garden', took her inspiration from the new Peter Pan film. We get glimpses of the garden through the trees and large leaved plants, making the transition from our world to the magical world of creativity, with a semi-circular blue surrounded by miniature conifers and bonsai trees. The space created was magical and each element, from the planting and the blue coloured pond to the mirrored backdrop are testament to Schurmann's attention to detail. (Fig.8)

It amazes me every year that new inspiration is found from the most unlikely of places. Tunde Szentesi has taken inspiration from under the sea, called 'Water in the Air'. It is intended to create a place that feels like being underwater. Szentesi's use of tall plants such as Echium and bamboo help to create the illusion. (Fig.9)

This year's Bloom in the Park was definitely full of inspiration for every style of garden and I know I will be borrowing some planting ideas for my own garden. 🌿



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

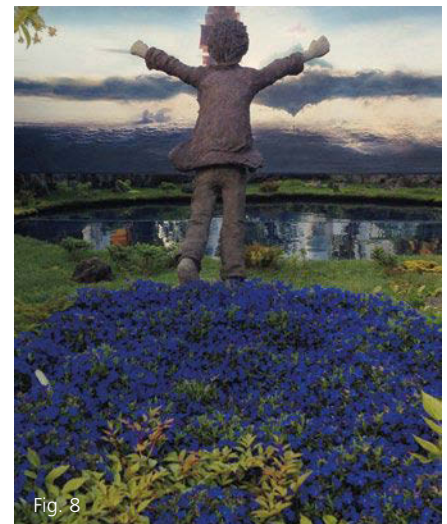


Fig. 8



Fig. 7



Fig. 9

ALL IMAGES BY DEIRDRE PRINCE

Deirdre Prince MLA Dip Arch Tech MGLDA
Landscape Architect.
Phone Dublin 01 6350032. Mobile: 087 9916961.
www.deirdreprince.ie

Winner of gold medal and
Best in Small Garden category
in Bloom 2012 in conjunction
with Patricia Tyrrell.





pick me!



Grow Your Own!

Growing your own vegetables at home can be a great way to begin self sustaining, and can also become a great hobby, but it can be a little daunting if you don't know where to start! So, whether you have always dreamt of having your own vegetable patch or you simply have some extra space in your garden that you would like to put to good use, here's all you need to get you on your way to growing your own!

Space

- First thing's first, you need to find the perfect spot for your vegetable patch. The best possible spot to start your patch is in a sunny space, preferably a spot that gets the sun for most of the day. Most vegetables grow annually, so you want to give them the best chance in the short time scale they have. If your garden doesn't get a lot of sun, you can still successfully grow leafy vegetables such as lettuce.

Some vegetables need shelter from the wind, such as tomatoes and cucumbers, so bare this in mind when choosing the space for your home grown veg. You can create wind shields with small fencings or buy a greenhouse.

- If you are planting your vegetables directly into the ground, as opposed to pots, clear the earth of anything else that is growing there. All weeds should be gone before you sow your seeds. Digging the earth the depth of a spade is ideal. Of course you don't have to plant directly into the ground; you can purchase deep, wide pots for your vegetables – which is ideal for smaller gardens. Mix in compost with your soil for the best conditions.

Soil and Sowing

- There are two ways you can plant your crops, the first way is row cropping, and this is ideal for anyone with a big space to grow your vegetables. This simply refers to sowing your seeds in a row, leaving a gap between each row for walking between your vegetables - allowing more space to work with them. An alternative is intensive cropping, which means using wide bands to plant vegetables all together, which is ideal for smaller spaces. Be sure not to make the bands wider than you can reach though!
- Make sure you have loosened the soil in your patch, you can do this by hand or use a tiller. You can check if the soil is right by pouring water over it, leaving it for a day before returning and digging some soil into your hand and squeezing it. If water streams out you should add some compost to improve the soils drainage. When you open your hand the ball of soil should fall apart when poked, like chocolate cake - if it crumbles like sand you can add organic matter, if it holds together too well then there is too much clay in the soil and organic matter will improve this too.

- You may already have in mind which vegetables you want to grow, and you will soon learn that there are endless possibilities, with there being thousands of tomato variety alone! The best way to choose what is right for your garden, and for the time of year, is by getting a seed catalogue or looking on the back of the packets in store.

Top Tip:

If you don't have space for a vegetable patch in your garden you can easily grow some from pots. Lettuce, peas and carrots all do well in pots if given the right environment, and you can always grow herbs from your windowsill!

- Sowing the seeds will depend on the vegetables you have chosen. Some vegetables, such as carrot and parsnips are sown directly into their final positions, whereas others, such as leeks, are grown in pots and then planted into their final positions.

Station sowing refers to sowing two or three seeds every few centimeters, once the seeds have come up you can choose the healthiest and thin out the others.

You can also start off by sowing your seeds in small containers, or modular cell trays which are very convenient, then moved on to their final place once they have germinated.

Watering and Care

- Vegetables need consistent watering to grow to their best. If your soil is on the sandier side you will need to water more, and if on the clay side then water less. Keep an eye on the weather too; if it's hot then your plants will require more watering. The general rule is to water enough to moisten at least six inches deep.
- You can fertilise your plants to help them along, this will give them nutrients and help bring out their full potential. There is organic fertiliser, which is made up of previously living material, and there is inorganic which is manufactured. Organic fertilisers tend to be more expensive and they release their nutrients at a slower rate making it harder to over fertilise.



The Contemporary
Home gardening gloves
and secateurs. £23.
www.tch.net

RHS Passiflora
trowel and fork
from **Berry Red**. £25.
www.berryred.co.uk

What to sow and when

July - Aug: Beetroot, carrot, lettuce, leeks,
onions, radish, spring onion.

Sept-Nov: Cabbage, spinach, salad leaves

Jan - Mar: Asparagus, aubergine,
cauliflower, celery, peppers

April - June: Broccoli, pak choi, peas



Top Tip:

Add a three-inch layer of organic
mulch around your plants. This will
insulate the soil, keeping it cooler in
summer and warmer in winter.



Personalised vegetable markers, perfect for
keeping your patch organised. Available
from **No Ordinary Gift Company**. £13.50.
www.noordinarygiftcompany.co.uk



Three pack of cell trays
from **Poundland**. £1.
www.poundland.co.uk

Steel Garden Shovel from
Tesco. £6. www.tesco.com



Top Tip:

Soak your seeds before sowing to give them a jump start!

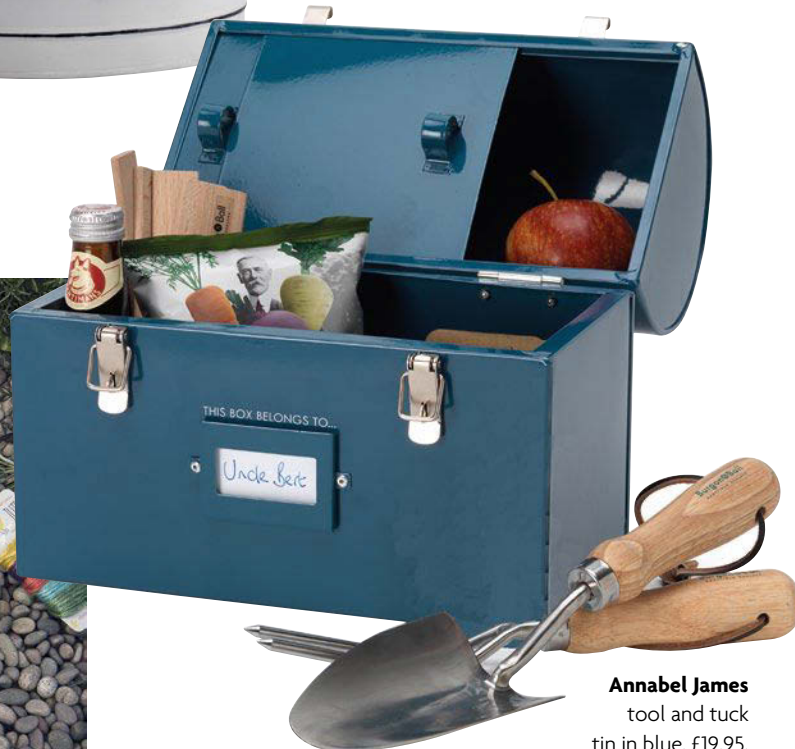
Rowlinson Woodvale metal shed from **Heritage Gardens**. 2,037 x 2,362. Price on request. www.heritagegardens.co.uk

Sovereign five piece set of garden tools from **Argos**. £24.99. www.argos.co.uk



White wash effect watering can from **House of Fraser**. £40. www.houseoffraser.co.uk

Dotcomgiftshop blue tit kneeling pad. £19.95. www.dotcomgiftshop.com

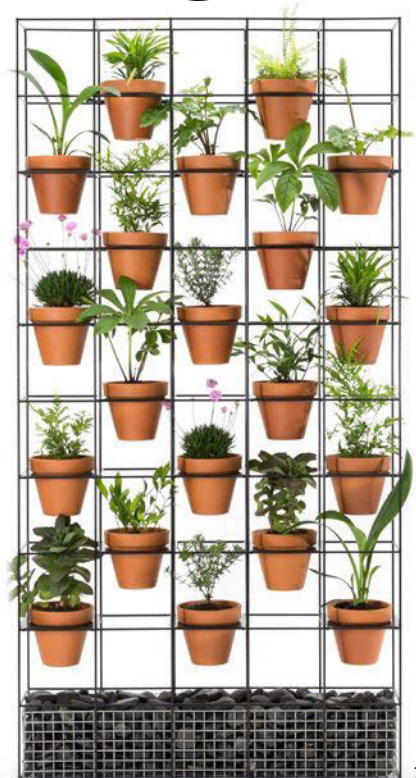


Annabel James tool and tuck tin in blue. £19.95. www.annabeljames.co.uk

Keep it Interesting

When it comes to bringing your garden to life with flowers there are many ways to do it that will give your garden some personality and dimension. Grounded flowerbeds are what we think of firstly when we think about planting our garden but it doesn't have to be the only option.

Creating layers of flowers and plants can really add to the overall look of a garden, adding lots of colour and character. The best thing about this is it doesn't have to take up a lot of room because you can make use of vertical space! A lot of people overlook planting above ground but you can make use of windowsills, fences, walls and even create flowerbeds in up-cycled sinks and cases. There are lots of products available that are specifically for planting flowers vertically; hanging baskets, hooked pots and vertical plant stands. Think outside the box to create a unique and stunning garden full to the brim with colourful flowers.



1 Waterspout set of two hanging flower pots from **In-spaces** comes in two sizes, small and large. Made from antiqued iron. From £20. www.in-spaces.com

2 Ute Design Lanna garden screen. £507. www.utedesign.com.au **3** Patterned, brightly coloured plant pots from **Hum Partnership**. £13. www.hum-partnership.com **4** Wooly Pocket living wall planters from **Garden House Design**. £29.99. www.gardenhousedesign.co.uk **5** Ivoire brass hanging plantholder from **Out There Interiors**. Price on request. www.outthereinteriors.co.uk





Go Green!

A beautiful lawn doesn't just happen, it has to be cared for in the right way so that it can grow to its potential. With that, here we have some advice on how to care for your grass.

Mowing

While obvious, it is worth mentioning because it is one of the most important maintenance tasks for your lawn over the summer. Regular mowing will keep the lawn in good health but it is the regularity and height of cutting that is the key to the overall success of the lawn. If you have a healthy, full lawn then you can take the lawn a little lower - the general rule is one-third of the height. If your lawn is suffering a bit, or there are stressful conditions such as hot weather or lack of water, it is best not to take the lawn too short- set the mower to the highest setting.

Feeding

You can buy lawn fertiliser from your local garden centre (use manufacturers instructions) to use over the summer months. The feed will increase the vigour and will also help to prevent moss and weeds from developing. The best time to apply fertilisers is when rain is expected, or give the ground a good watering to ensure the soil is moist. If your lawn has lost its freshness then this method can be applied to restore it back to life.

Weeding

To get perfect grass you need to remove the weeds, and the approach you should take depends on the types of weeds you have on your lawn. Prevention is better than cure and if you have a healthy, full lawn it is

much harder for the weeds to establish in the first place. A patchy lawn leaves room for weeds to come through and get the sunshine they need. You can tackle persistent weeds by hand with a fork and trowel, and a long screwdriver is handy to get down deep with minimal damage to the surrounding lawn. Lawn weed killer is another option but be sure to read the instructions carefully and if you have a new lawn, consider waiting six months before resorting to chemical treatment.

Over Seeding

Once all the weeds are gone, or where your grass is growing sparsely, over seeding may be the next necessary step. This is best done in early autumn. Lightly rake the area and apply seed at a rate of 10 to 15g per m². Water lightly after a few days if the weather is dry. You should see sprouts within seven to ten days.

Watering

If your ground has become very dry due to warmer weather, it can be a good idea to water your lawn before it turns yellow or brown. Spike the earth with a fork to allow the water better access to the soil below. Well established lawns should do alright in summer with minimal water, and if they have lost their healthy green colour they usually perk up again in the rainy season, but make sure new lawns are well watered throughout - but not over watered.



Good for the Sole

Here at this modern country dwelling composite decking has been used for the main dining area set within limestone paving laid in three different sizes providing interest and a nice texture if bare foot while eating.

You can completely transform your garden with patio and decking; creating a space for outdoor dining, entertaining, or a place to enjoy with the family. With so many options to consider it can be quite daunting on where to start. Peter Dunn of Dunn Landscapes steps up to offer some expert advice that will help you on your way!



For this contemporary courtyard black limestone was laid using 600mm x 300mm in a staggered bond complemented with gold granite setts and a square of 300mm x300mm limestone paving in the middle of the terrace.

Choosing the right hard landscape materials for the garden that will both fulfill your practical and aesthetic needs can involve a lot of deliberation. As the rest of the garden grows, blooms and changes throughout the year the surfaces contribute in equal measure throughout the year.

Paving and decking materials broadly fall into two categories, natural or manufactured. Quarried stone such as sandstone, limestone or granite have become much more readily available in recent years with a much larger range of sizes and finishes available. This increase in availability has also significantly reduced the price and in many cases can be cheaper than some of the higher end man-made imitations.

The advantages of using natural stone are that each stone has a unique blend of colours and tones giving them more character than a manufactured concrete product. Also the natural stone will retain its character over time where concrete products can have their aggregate exposed after a few years of trafficking.

I often advise clients that it is worth going the extra mile and specifying natural stone because the same preparation is necessary for either natural or manufactured paving.

The disadvantage of natural products is that they can take longer to lay compared to concrete products which are a uniform size. They also need to be sealed properly which is an ongoing task as the colour can fade quickly with limestones in particular. Sandstones by their nature tend to be slightly porous which in our damp Irish climate results in them going green rapidly, so sealing is a must.

This intimate seating area was paved using solely silver granite setts allowing a smaller more detailed and personal finish that could replicate the shape of the seating.



The laying patterns of your chosen paving and the sizes used can influence the design significantly. Using three to four sizes laid in a random pattern will give the most traditional appearance and suit period or older properties and traditional country homes. To achieve a more contemporary finish use a single size paving unit laid either in a staggered or a stack bond.

If you are also in the process of installing a new kitchen then consideration of the material size, colour and laying bond in relation to the tiles or flooring laid will be a huge influence. Some of the larger tile retailers are now stocking porcelain stoneware produced specifically for the outdoor market by existing tile manufacturers. These tiles can be matched both in size and style to interior options. The finish is by far superior to anything on the market but they do come with a hefty price tag and the preparation and laying costs are high.

I know a lot of people associate decking with a certain middle age celebrity gardener of the 90s but I have to break the news that it's back in vogue! This time though it's back in the form of composite decking. This is decking that is made from a blend of 95 per cent recycled wood and plastic including plastic bags. The composite is wrapped in a shell and won't rot, warp or splinter and has a 25-year guarantee on it retaining its colour. There is a range of colours and they can even come with a deep wood grain finish looking every bit as good as a hardwood deck without the maintenance.



Peter Dunn is the proprietor of the Belfast based garden design and build company Dunn Landscapes. Phone 07816 785747. www.dunnlandscapes.co.uk You can also follow Dunn Landscapes on facebook.com/dunnlandscapes



A traditional design using 'mint' sandstone in three sizes which complements the reclaimed brick and green oak within the project.



City Slicker

Anne moved from her high spec, new build home to this beautiful period property in Dublin, where the existing kitchen and layout was to require a major overhaul, step forward Andrew Ryan Furniture.





The house was built in 1892,' says Anne, 'so it didn't give great emphasis to the kitchen. When we bought the house there was a tiny galley kitchen in the basement with a very basic oven, laminate 1970s presses above and below the counter, a lino floor and stainless steel sink. It was tiny, but cooking is a hobby for me, it is a great joy. My friends joked about how I was able to produce six course dinner parties for 12 people out of it!'

So after putting up with her existing kitchen, a refurbishment of the house looked set to revolutionise the space. The major focus of the refurb was going to be the kitchen. In conjunction with the architect, Sheehan & Barry Architects, Anne was persuaded to relinquish the idea of the formal dining room upstairs so she'd have two original rooms up there at the front and an open

plan kitchen/dining space downstairs. But to do that it all had to work well in conjunction together so the design was extremely important in terms of orientation and configuration of presses.

'We had five kitchen companies on a shortlist. We went to visit them and each had elements I liked, but I wasn't entirely sure they could do what I wanted. Andrew Ryan were instantly interested and understanding and didn't want to shoehorn me into a solution, they were trying to find out what I wanted and what they could do for me. I could see the workmanship and craftsmanship was of a very high quality. They really understand the client and what they are about and that no two clients or designs are the same. They gave time and energy and we felt that what we got was something we worked on together with



them, not a ready made solution.’ Designer Mia knew they wanted a simple design that would complement the room itself. They were able to show Anne their interpretation of ‘quiet design’. A bespoke modern kitchen design with clean simple lines made using precision manufacturing to allow every last bit of space to be organised internally and one that would come alive when it was being used.

Before long Anne had listed her likes and dislikes in kitchen design. Being a prolific cook, practicality was paramount. A key feature of this kitchen is how the storage was designed to suit the Anne’s love of cooking and need for organised and accessible storage for her cooking condiments. ‘I had things in my head for about eight years. I knew what I wanted and what I didn’t want which helped as a starting point for both of us. Their first drawings were

very exciting and as it progressed into our final design it was fantastic. It’s wonderful because while I’m cooking, I am at one point on ‘the triangle’ as I have the cooker behind me, fridge and baking cupboard close to hand which has a downlighter and a hidden shelf at work height which can be pulled out on runners so when I’m making pastry I have all my dry ingredients at eye level without stretching. It’s so handy as I have about ten types of flour! I also have a bespoke pull out spice rack which is just perfect!

Then I have my key appliance items that are in there and plugged in. If you can access everything easily you’ll have a much greater chance of using it more often.’ To maintain the clean lines on the island and not to detract from the artwork in the space Mia recommended a Gutmann futura extractor which sits flush to the worktop when not in use.



This modern kitchen with its clean lines is deceptive in the detail that lies within. Specialist storage solutions have been provided for linens, espresso cups, silverware, cooking utensils and serving dishes. Mia at Andrew Ryan had a full inventory when designing the kitchen as the success was always going to be that it worked exceptionally well functionally and that it delivered on the aesthetic. This kitchen comes alive when in use and is an excellent backdrop to the room when it is not in use. But this is no ‘off the shelf’ design. It is an Irish made modern kitchen which has been custom made in the Andrew Ryan factory in Gorey, Co. Wexford. For this reason Mia had complete flexibility in the design process and was able to tailor the design of the interior and exterior to meet Anne’s every need. Plus the fact that the product is made here in Ireland, clients can support local business and manufacturing. All these factors combined to make it a joyous experience for Anne and one she clearly cherishes. ‘Once I went to see Andrew Ryan I knew instantly that they understood me and were excited to work on it. I’d recommend them to anyone. They’re a super company. It’s the room in the house where I spend most time and it’s a very social space and a nice place to be in, not just the place you go when you need to make food. I work full time but when I go home at night I cook from scratch. I cook every day, I bake a number of times a week; it’s like therapy for me! It’s so wonderful, for the first time in my life I have the kitchen I absolutely adore.’ ✂



Kitchen Contacts

KITCHEN DESIGN

Andrew Ryan Furniture

Gorey, 053 9421585.

www.andrewryan.ie

Worktops: Silestone by Cosentino.

APPLIANCES

Single Oven: Miele PerfectClean

Steam Combi Oven: Miele

Induction Hob: Siemens touchSlider

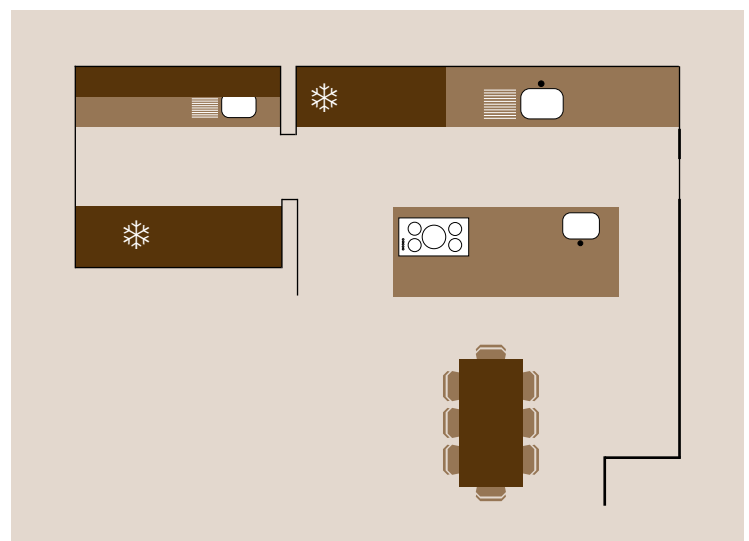
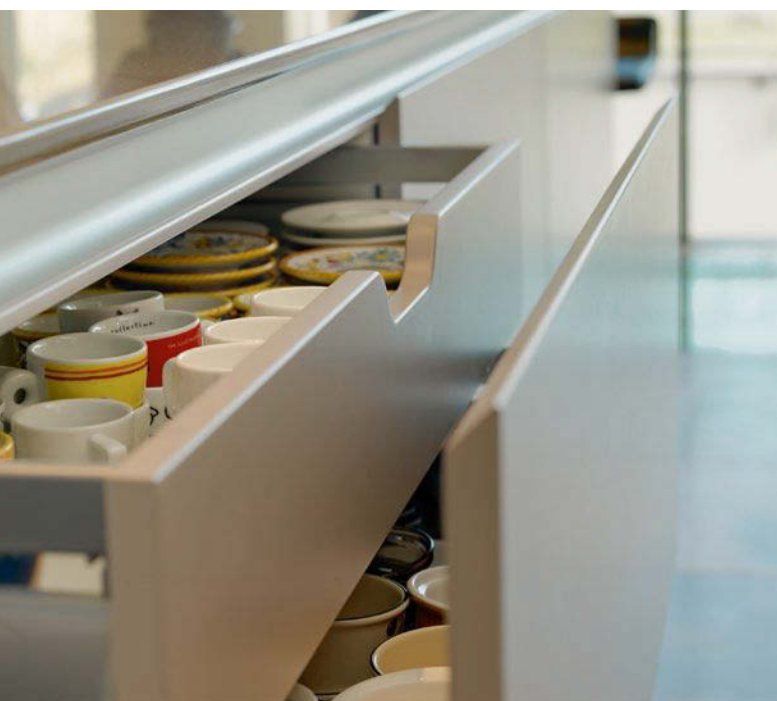
Extractor: Gutmann Futura

Dishwasher: Siemens

Larder Fridge: Liebherr

Larder Freezer: Liebherr

Wine Cooler: Liebherr





Yellow Door Goes Native

Chef Phil Rodgers throws the spotlight on Yellow Door's latest box office success – the Native eatery at the MAC, Belfast's iconic arts venue in the heart of the Cathedral Quarter. Here, Phil's kitchen team share the secrets of some of their sensational snacks and lunch dishes.

Steak & Chip Skewers with a Kearney Blue Cheese Fondue

(Recipe on following page)

Simon Dougan, founder of Yellow Door deli and outside catering, has teamed up with Phil Rodgers, a fellow chef and consultant with the Yellow Door Group, to stage an exciting new eatery in Belfast.

Open from 9am until late, seven days a week, Native by Yellow Door serves everything from great coffee and Sunday brunch, to take-away lunch and pre-theatre dining.

'We chose the name 'Native' because it embodies our whole ethos at Yellow Door - we have a passion for fabulous, locally produced food, and a desire to get the very best out of it,' explains Phil.

Quickly setting the scene as a 'must visit' venue, Native now attracts an eclectic mix of diners – MAC visitors, shoppers, tourists, students, office workers, arty folk, business

people...anyone with a love of quality, flavoursome food and drink, all at affordable prices.

The style of food during the day is informal, starting with breakfast and moving on to lunch, with really good hot deli-style sandwiches using Yellow Door's own bakery sour dough and other classic artisan breads, as well as salads from the Yellow Door kitchen garden.

Evenings are different, with a choice of smaller 'bites' and more hearty meals, all complemented with an extensive local, artisan beer and cider list served at the bar.

Taking centre stage on the menu is 'Native Bites', an innovative selection of scrummy snacks, ideal for theatre-goers or those preferring a light bite as part of a relaxing social get together.

Phil Rodgers,
Chef and General Manager.



On previous page

Steak & Chip Skewers with a Kearney Blue Cheese Fondue

Serves 4 (2 pieces per person)

INGREDIENTS

300g locally reared lean rump steak
2 large baked potatoes
Coarsely ground black pepper
Vegetable oil
Salt flakes
25g butter
25ml oil
100g blue cheese
50ml double cream
8 x 4 inch wooden skewers

METHOD

1 Cut the rump steak into 8 x 1 inch dices. Heat the oil in a frying pan and brown the beef for a few minutes. Add butter for the last minute of frying. Season with salt and pepper and transfer to a clean plate.

2 Cook the baked potatoes until they are still slightly firm. Allow to cool. When cool, square off the potatoes with a sharp knife and cut into 1 inch dices.

3 Pre-heat cooking oil to 375°C and lightly fry the potato cubes in vegetable oil. Remove from the oil and drain on a piece of kitchen paper.

4 Place a cube of potato, then a cube of meat onto the skewers. Pre-heat the oven to 220°C.

For the blue cheese fondue

1 Place the cheese and double cream in a heavy-based pan and heat on a low heat. Whisk periodically to prevent any lumps.

2 Place the skewers on a roasting tray and cook in oven (5-10 minutes, depending on how well done you like your meat cooked). Allow the skewers to rest for a few minutes and serve with a warm dish of blue cheese fondue.





Gracehill Black Pudding Fritters & Apple Purée

Serves 4 (2 pieces per person)

INGREDIENTS

For the fritters

380g Gracehill black pudding, roughly chopped
100g chicken fillet, diced
1 large egg, beaten
3 tbsp milk
3 tbsp all-purpose flour
150g tbsp panko (Japanese bread crumbs)
Vegetable oil for frying

For the apple purée

1 Bramley apple
1 Granny Smith apple
25g butter

METHOD

1 Peel, core and dice the apples and add to a saucepan with the butter, then cook on a low heat for 7-8 minutes until soft. Blend in a food processor until smooth. If the apples are a little tart add some sugar to sweeten.

2 Blend the black pudding and chicken fillet in a food processor until smooth, season with salt and pepper, then roll the mixture into 8 balls and refrigerate.

3 Beat the eggs and milk together in a bowl

4 Roll the black pudding balls in the flour, egg mix and finally the breadcrumbs.

5 Fry in hot oil (180°C) for 3-4 minutes until golden in colour.

To serve

Put a little apple purée on a plate with a black pudding fritter.

Native Roast Porchetta Sandwich

INGREDIENTS

1 x 1kg piece of flat pork belly, boneless
1 x 1kg piece of loin pork, boneless and rindless
2 tbsp fennel seeds, crushed
Bunch of fresh rosemary, finely chopped
2 red chillies, deseeded and finely chopped
4 cloves of crushed garlic
2 tbsp sea salt
Zest of 1 orange
250ml chicken or vegetable stock
Ciabatta rolls

METHOD

1 When purchasing the pork, ask the butcher to make sure they are both roughly the same size.

2 Score the pork belly on both sides, place skin-side down and rub the ingredients into the pork, on the flesh side only.

3 Place the loin of pork in the centre and roll the belly around it, then tie it up securely with butcher's string.

4 Place the pork in a heavy-based roasting tin, add the vegetable stock, and cover with foil.

5 Cook in a pre-heated oven at 160°C for 2 hours 30 minutes, then remove the foil and turn the oven up to 200°C for a further 30 minutes until the skin is crispy.

6 Rest the meat for 20 minutes and carve into ciabatta rolls. Serve with apple sauce or any of your favourite chutneys or relishes.



Pork Crackling Straws with a Bramley Apple & Caramelised Onion Dip

INGREDIENTS

400-500g pork skin, preferably taken from loin of pork and bought un-scored as a 'sheet' of skin
 1 tsp fennel seeds
 ¼ tsp black peppercorns
 1 tbsp sea salt flakes, plus extra for sprinkling over at the end
 ½ tsp smoked paprika
 2 Bramley apples
 2 tsp shop-bought caramelised onion chutney

METHOD

1 Grind finely half of the fennel seeds (½ tsp) with the peppercorns and the salt, then stir through the paprika and the remaining ½ tsp of whole fennel seeds, and set aside.

2 Using a sharp knife and a ruler to cut against, cut the pork skin into thin strips about 1cm wide. Rub the spice seasoning into the pork strips until it's all well coated. Cover and set the pork aside for at least an hour, or overnight preferably.

To cook

1 Heat the oven to 200°C/180°C fan/gas 6.

2 Get two similar-sized large, shallow baking trays. Line the base of one of the trays with parchment paper and lay the pork skin over as evenly as possible. Lay another sheet of parchment paper over the skin and top with the second tray, then place something heavy and ovenproof on top.

3 Place in the middle of the oven for 40 minutes, then carefully remove. Lift off the top tray and layer of paper and, using a fish slice or tongs, turn the straws and pour off any fat. Place the paper and the weighted tray back on top and continue to cook for another 20 minutes. Check again – what you are looking for are uniformly blistered, rusty coloured, crispy skins. The cooking time very much depends on the quality of the pork – very good quality pork will take half the time to crisp up.

4 When the straws are ready, drain them on kitchen paper then leave to cool. They will stay fresh up to 2 days in an airtight container.

To make the apple sauce

1 Peel apples and stew with a little water until softened. Use a hand blender and blend until smooth. Stir in the caramelised onion marmalade.

2 Serve alongside the pork straws and sprinkle with salt flakes.





Bacon & Pea Barley Risotto with Curry Oil & Corleggy Shavings

Serves 4

INGREDIENTS

250g diced dry cure bacon
200g frozen peas
150g barley
50g butter
1 shallot, finely diced
50 ml white wine
1 clove crushed garlic
50g Corleggy shavings or parmesan cheese

For the curry oil

50 ml rapeseed oil
10g mild curry powder

METHOD

1 To make the curry oil, put the oil and curry powder in a heavy-based pan on a low heat for 1 hour. Allow to cool, then strain the oil, before putting into a sauce bottle.

2 Soak the barley overnight to soften, and rinse well under water.

3 Heat the olive oil and half the butter on a low heat, fry the bacon and shallot for 5 minutes until the shallot has softened.

4 Add the garlic and barley and stir until all the grains are coated with oil.

5 Cook for a further 5 minutes, until the barley starts to become translucent in colour.

6 Add the white wine and cook until the liquid has been reduced. Continue this process by adding the stock a little at a time, stirring regularly. This should take around 12-15 minutes, until the barley is soft.

7 Finish the risotto with peas, the remaining butter and Corleggy shavings. Drizzle with curry oil and garnish with pea shoots.

At Native, we serve this dish with a crumbed poached egg fritter, but this is optional.



COMPETITION

Ireland's Homes Interiors & Living Magazine together with Native restaurant in Belfast are offering one lucky reader lunch for two at Native (to the value of £30), with a complimentary glass of house wine each.

How to enter

Answer the following question:
At what iconic Belfast building is the new Native by Yellow Door eatery located?

Send your answer, name, address, email and phone number marked **Native Restaurant Competition** to Ireland's Homes Interiors & Living Magazine, PO Box 42, Bangor, Co. Down, BT19 7AD or Ashgrove House, Kill Avenue, Dun Laoghaire, County Dublin or enter online at www.ihil.net

Entries must be received no later than 5pm on Friday 31st July 2015. One entry per household. One separate email/postcard for each competition. Judge's decision is final. No cash alternative. Prizes are non-transferable and non-exchangeable. Voucher valid for six months.

If you would like to receive our monthly Newsletter please include your email address with your entry.



Destination Ireland:

Malahide

Malahide is a pretty town in County Dublin that is about ten miles north of Dublin City Centre. A beautiful marina and velvet strand is very popular with swimmers and water sports enthusiasts. If you prefer staying on dry land, Malahide offers an excellent selection of great restaurants too.

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF Fáilte Ireland.

One of the highlights of Malahide is Malahide Castle and Demesne that is located just a short walk from the train station. The castle has recently undergone an ambitious redevelopment plan that has reasserted it as one of the top tourist destinations in the country. The Secret Gardens feature walled gardens and a beautiful Victorian glass house. These gardens remained unseen by the public since the castle was handed over to the state by the last Talbot to inhabit the castle in the 1970s. A new shopping and café centre can be found in the castle courtyard that is located to the rear of Malahide Castle adjacent to the ruins Malahide Abbey. Here you will find an Avoca Café as well as a souvenir shop and museum. Tours for the castle and Demesne are also available while the parkland around the castle is a good place for a picnic.

The extensive Velvet Strand in Malahide is extremely popular with bathers, walkers and water sports enthusiasts. It has a 2km beach that is regarded as one of the picks of Dublin beaches and offers a lovely vista out to Lambay Island, Howth and Ireland's Eye. From Malahide Beach you can also take the 5km coastal walk on the footpath all the way to Portmarnock.

Malahide Marina is the ideal location from which to enjoy sailing the waters of the Irish Sea. A 300-berth marina is another great feature of Malahide and means it is a popular destination for Irish and International yachts visiting the area.

Fry Model Railway is Ireland's largest model railway at 240sq metres, and authentically displays much of Ireland's rail and public transport system, including the DART line and Irish Sea ferry services. A separate room features model trains and other memorabilia. It is located beside Malahide Station and railway bridge.

Where to eat

Seabank Bistro is a family run restaurant that specialises in fresh, local produce. Their selection of fish changes daily depending on what is available locally so check the blackboard on arrival.

www.seabankbistrodublin.com

The Greedy Goose Restaurant has spectacular views over the marina and has recently been newly renovated. The menu is not structured around the traditional starters, mains and dessert categories, but is instead an open invitation to order from their specially selected tasting menus to create an innovative dining experience.

www.thegreedygooserestaurantmalahide.com





Bon Appetit has a fabulous menu combined with a unique coastal location in a Georgian townhouse in Malahide. The restaurant is another of Oliver Dunne's gastronomic inventions, and it has become synonymous with the best classical French cuisine in Dublin. The restaurant is also the home of famous chef Oliver Dunne's cookery masterclasses. There is also a tapas and wine bar, located on the ground floor. www.bonappetitrestaurantdublin.com

Where to stay

The 4-star Grand Hotel has a range of bedroom types, all built and designed to a high standard of accommodation. Along with their restaurant and bar facilities, there are also leisure facilities in the Arena Health & Fitness Club that boasts a 21-metre swimming pool, a spa bath and a steam room. www.thegrand.ie

The Island View Hotel is located on the Coast Road and faces a sandy beach. The onsite bar and restaurant has live music every weekend and traditional Irish music on Monday evenings. The hotel also boasts the renowned Oscar Taylor's Restaurant where you can dine in a more relaxed atmosphere. www.islandviewhotel.ie

The Evergreen Malahide B&B is surrounded by large landscaped gardens and is located only 500 metres from Malahide Castle. It provides excellent accommodation, a choice of freshly cooked breakfasts and private parking all set in peaceful surroundings. www.evergreenmalahide.com

Getting there

By car it takes approximately 1 hour 45 minutes from Belfast, 30 minutes from Dublin and from Cork approximately 3 hours.

Essential Contacts

www.enjoymalahide.com



Destination Abroad: Jamaica

Renowned for being the birthplace of Reggae, this Caribbean island has everything you need for a luxurious, relaxed beach holiday with plenty to see and do to satisfy your adventurous side too. With rainforests, mountains and reef-lined beaches, Jamaica is the perfect summer destination full of cultural charm.



Things to See & Do

Start out in the island's capital, Kingston Town, which is the perfect place to get a taste of what the island has to offer. Kingston is the cultural hub of the island, where you will find original colonial architecture and the Hope Gardens. You can visit the former home of the late Bob Marley which is now a museum dedicated to the Reggae superstar. Bob's home is filled with rich memories and treasured mementos from throughout his life. You will be taken on a guided tour around the Jamaican Heritage site by a friendly tour guide taking in the sights and sounds of Bob, experiencing all the rooms as they were left when Bob lived there, along with some of his most treasured items and clothing. Tours run Monday to Saturday. www.bobmarleymuseum.com

With its size, Jamaica is easy to travel around, so nothing is out of reach! While renting a car is a possibility, there are also very willing taxis and private car hires which are low cost. The roads in Jamaica aren't what we are used to so it is worth considering this before deciding your means of travel. Heading east on the island you will find the Blue Mountains, which is the source of the famous Blue Mountain Coffee. There are many quaint villages within the mountains, and the people are very friendly

and welcoming. You can hike up from the bottom starting at Whitfield Hall, with an easy to follow trail leading the way, with options for all skill levels. It can take up to three hours to reach the top but the views and experience is worth every step!

Take a trip to Dunn's River Falls situated in Ocho Rios, on the North Coast of the island. Dunn's River Falls is an astounding collection of flowing falls which extends for more than 183 metres and is one of the most stunning spots in Jamaica. Not only are these falls and springs mesmerising but they have a very fascinating history surrounding the fight for ownership of the land.

Montego Bay is Jamaica's second largest city filled with golden beaches, palm covered hills and historic plantations. There are many beach front hotels which have their own private beaches, but there are some beaches that are opened to the public. There is plenty to offer in this port city, from fishing to horse back riding, and divers and snorkelers can explore the colourful reefs. Why not experience Bamboo Rafting on the Martha Brae River, just 20 miles out side of Montego Bay. You can sit back and relax while your guided river tour floats you three miles downstream on a raft made from bamboo. If you are lucky enough to have an adventurous raft guide, he might even hop off and collect fresh mangos for you from the surrounding trees on the river banks. If shopping is your thing, head to Harbour Street where there are markets, restaurants, art galleries and duty free shops a-plenty.

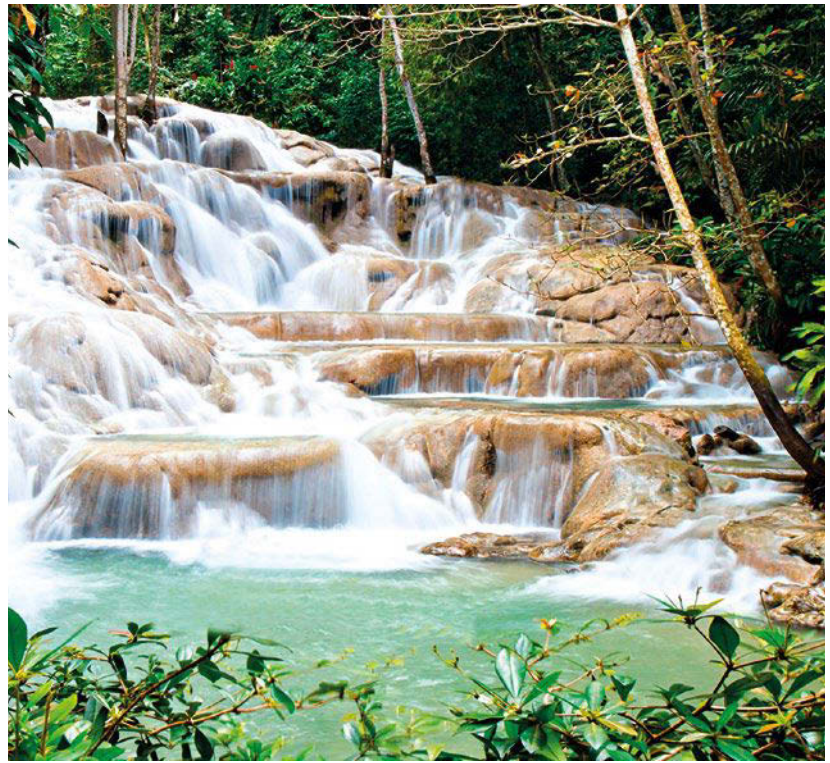
On the south side of the island is Negril, a small but popular beach resort town only 15 minutes drive from the airport. It holds host to the famous Seven Mile Beach. Close by you can visit Dolphin Cove which offers the experience of a lifetime, allowing you to interact with dolphins in their natural sea environment.

The most enchanting things about Jamaica are the natural beauty, and the laid back culture of the people, so make sure to take it all in for an authentic Jamaican experience.

Places to Stay

Get the celebrity treatment at the Terra Nova All Suite Hotel in Kingston. It offers complete luxury with all the mod-cons and is situated just 650 yards from the historic Devon House – the mansion of the first black Jamaican millionaire. Enjoy the hot tub and outdoor pool, with all of Kingston's hot spots not far away. www.terranovajamaica.com

Sandals Montego Bay is an all-inclusive resort with its own private



island and private beach. The best thing about Sandals is that you can do it all, or nothing at all; everything is included in your holiday package. You can experience unlimited scuba diving in clear waters, relax by the pool, or try some yoga or volley ball! There is also nightly entertainment on the resort, and the option of having your own butler. There is also a Sandals Resort in Negril. www.sandals.com

Beaches Negril Resort and Spa has been voted as the best hotel for families in the Caribbean by Trip Advisor. It adopts the laid back attitude that Negril invented, and a cheerful relaxed vibe carries throughout the resort. Everything you need is beach side, from lively pools, restaurants and bars to the resorts own waterpark. It is situated along the Seven Mile Beach in Negril. www.beaches.com

Eating & Drinking

Jerk Chicken is the quintessential Jamaican dish; the meat is dry rubbed with the traditional Jerk spice and has a smoky, juicy and hot flavour. JoJo's Jerk Pit and More is located on Waterloo Road in Kingston. It started out as a simple farm market but soon blossomed into one of Kingston's most popular eateries. For a truly authentic Jerk dish, head here. It offers

gourmet cuisine along side street food, it is quite the experience.

Another traditional Jamaican dish is curried goat, and while not for everyone if you fancy trying this dish it is popular throughout the island so it won't take you long before you find it on a menu.

Ivan's Bar and Restaurant has beautiful ocean front dining with an extensive menu on offer. It is closed to the public during the day but opens up from 5pm. It offers a wide range of perfectly cooked dishes with fresh ingredients and is a great place to go if you are after a bit of romance. Children under the age of 15 aren't allowed in the restaurant unless it is for special occasions.

Getting There

You can fly from Dublin to New York, JFK and onwards to Sangstar International in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

Essential Contacts

www.visitjamaica.com

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

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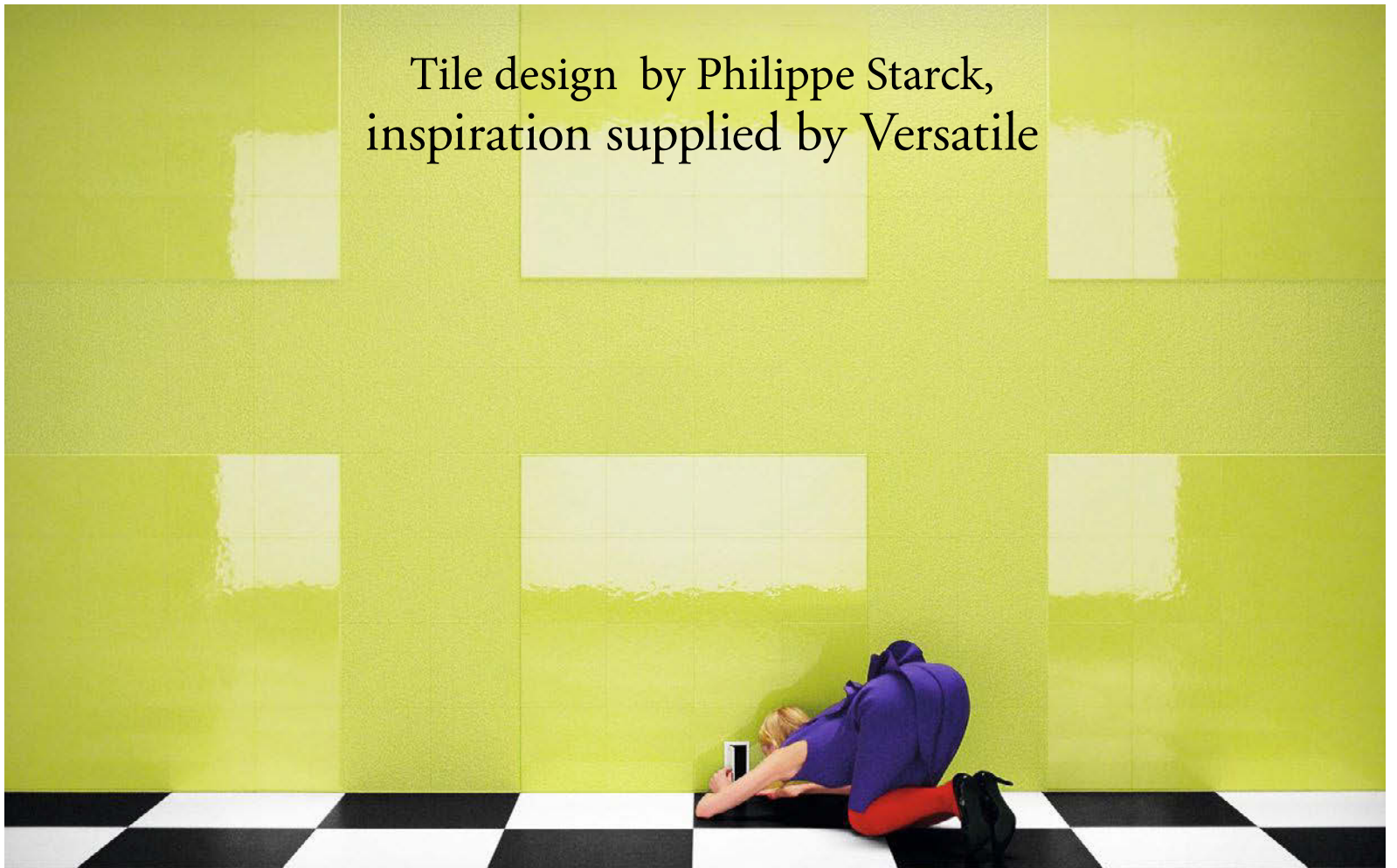
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